



City Info

A NEWSLETTER FOR LONGVIEW CITIZENS

Snapshots

Snapshots from Longview's
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October/November/December 2011

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Thank you for following us this past year in our City Info Weekly. We hope we are providing information that is timely and useful for you.

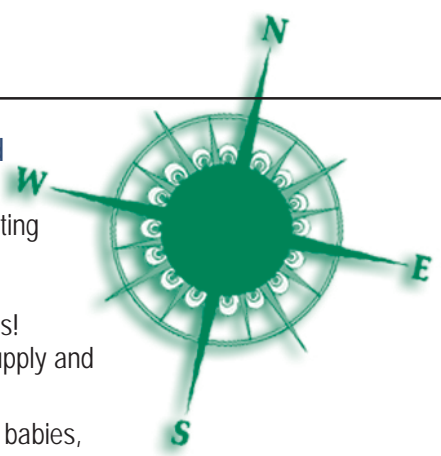
We are presenting this quarterly "recap" version of our online newsletter to give you a quick snapshot of what is happening in the City of Longview, including current projects and special events. Please feel free to print the newsletter, or simply email it to friends, family or colleagues.

If you have anything you would like to see included in our City Info Weekly publication, please call 360.442.5022 and let us know about it. And don't forget to follow us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Flickr!

Bob Gregory, City Manager

Ongoing City programs and services online:

- ◆ Download our new "mobile app" for reporting problems through ASK Longview.
- ◆ 2011 State of the Cities report
- ◆ Register for Parks and Recreation classes!
- ◆ Follow the progress of the City's water supply and sewer diversion projects
- ◆ Explore all of the wonderful programs for babies, children, youth and teens at the Library
- ◆ View the City's 2011-2012 budget
- ◆ Check out community events at www.cowlitztoday.com



Longview City Council sets aside \$25,000 for neighborhood park grants

The Longview City Council has approved the funding of the neighborhood park grant program for the 15th year. This program will provide resident groups and organizations with matching funds for park improvement projects. The deadline for submitting an application is Feb.1, 2012.

The City is committed to promoting and sustaining an environment that is responsive to resident involvement. The intent of the grant program is to encourage neighborhoods and organizations to get involved and work together towards a common goal. Service groups, neighborhood groups, athletic organizations, and business organizations can apply for all or a portion of the available \$25,000 to match with their own funds and/or in-kind services and materials. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will review the applications received and make recommendations to the City Council as to which project(s) should be funded.

The Council feels it can increase the amount of improvements made to local parks by supporting this grant program through the funding of 50% of the work as a shared effort. Examples of qualifying projects include: land acquisition; purchase of new playground equipment, picnic shelters, benches and landscape materials; construction of sports courts such as tennis and basketball; development of hiking and biking paths; and, athletic field development.

More information: *The application for funds is handled through the Parks and Recreation Department. Interested parties may obtain application forms from the Recreation office at 2920 Douglas St., or online at www.mylongview.com. For additional information, please contact Parks and Recreation Director Rich Bemm at 442.5400. (12/28/11)*

Christmas tree recycling is here again!

Have your tree chipped for use as an alternative fuel or compost! This program is FREE and the drop site is open 24-hours. Drop-off location for Christmas trees is the parking lot at the 7th Avenue Soccer Park from December 26 through January 22, 2012. Curbside collection for Longview residents is January 2 through 6, 2012

Please follow these simple rules:

- Christmas trees only
- No stands, flocked, or artificial trees
- Remove tinsel, metal hooks, nails and lights
- Tree bases must be six-inches or less in diameter
- Flocked trees must be taken to the Waste Control Transfer Station

More information: *If you have any questions, please call the City of Longview Recycling Information Line at 442-5222. (12/28/11)*

Not a moment to waste: how can you personally reduce recycling contamination?

The answer is amazingly simple. The best thing you can do to reduce recycling contamination and avoid receiving a violation notice is to remove your recycling container from the alley or curb as soon as you can after it has been emptied. If you are gone most of the day at work, ask a friend or neighbor for help.

The City has discovered that recycling containers left in alleys or on curbs are a magnet for illegal dumping and recycling contamination... Learn more about what you can do, and read the article submitted to the Daily News, at www.longviewrecycles.com/. (12/21/11)

A substantial amendment is being made to the CDBG/HOME 2009-2013 Consolidated Plan

The City of Longview is proposing a Substantial Amendment to its 2009-2013 Consolidated Plan for the CDBG program. The proposed amendment is available for review in person at the City of Longview Community Development Department, 1525 Broadway, or online at: <http://www.mylongview.com/communitydev/cdbg.html> under "Important Links."

A concurrent 30-day Public Comment Period is being held from December 23, 2011 through January 21, 2012 for the Proposed Substantial Amendment and 2011 Annual Plan amendment for the Float Loan provision and proposed activity. A Public Hearing will be held Thursday, January 12, 2012 at Longview City Hall, 1525 Broadway, Longview WA at 7 PM.

All comments must be received by January 21, 2012 and will be submitted to the Seattle HUD Regional Office. Please direct all written comments to Julie Hourcle', Community Development, Longview City Hall, PO Box 128/1525 Broadway, Longview, Washington, 98632-7080. Comments by E-mail will also be accepted sent to julie.hourcle@mylongview.com titled in the Subject Line: "Comment for the Amendment to the 2009-2013 Consolidated Plan."

More information: *For further information about the changes, contact Julie Hourcle' at 360.442.5081. (12/28/11)*



Office of Solid Waste & Recycling
442-5222 • mylongview.com



Downtown parking changes take effect January 1, 2012

On September 22, 2011, the Longview City Council modified several of the existing on and off-street parking regulations in downtown Longview. These changes are based upon recommendations included in the city's new downtown action agenda, which was developed with the input of many downtown businesses, employees, customers, residents, and others interested in the revitalization of downtown. Those changes will be effective January 1, 2012.

A summary of the changes and more detailed information, including the ordinance language and a map of each City parking lot where changes are being made, is available for review on the City's website at www.mylongview.com. Click on the yellow Downtown Parking Changes button.

More information: Read the entire press release at <http://www.mylongview.com/news/>. (12/21/11)

Teen film premiere @ Longview Public Library

The world premiere of local film-maker Eric Nguyen's *Secret Asian Men* will be shown at the Longview Public Library on Tuesday, January 3, at 6 p.m. in the Library Auditorium.

Lunar Stunts Action Cinema was founded in 2005 by Eric Nguyen with his brother Irvin Nguyen. Their growing independent production company creates short films, action scenes, etc. The Nguyen brothers are a performing stunt team.

Everyone is welcome to enjoy this free movie and popcorn.

More information: Contact Jan E.V.W. Hanson, Youth Services Librarian if you have any questions, or if you need additional information at 360.442.5323. (12/21/11)

No rate increase in 2012 for solid waste and recycling services!

Congratulations Longview! It's because of the positive steps you've made in the recycling program this year that no rate increase is needed for 2012! It is projected that over 550 fewer tons of contaminated materials were collected from the recycling containers than last year, which reduced the sorting charges and provided a cleaner product to sell to the recycling markets. With healthy market prices, the City has started receiving revenue from the sale of the material for the first time in years. So, your efforts have made a difference in 2011. Thank you! (12/14/11)



Give food for fines at Longview Public Library

The Longview Public Library will once again accept food for fines beginning December 12 and continuing through December 17. A can, box or bag of non-perishable food will be accepted in lieu of fifty cents or less of overdue fines. **Food may not be used to pay for lost or damaged items.** The donated food will go to the Help Warehouse.

More information: Please contact the library at 442-5030 if you have any questions. (11/30/11)

Lake Sacajawea bird walk

Lake Sacajawea Park has a species list of 130 birds and is featured on the Great Washington Birding Trail! Longview Recreation is joining Willapa Hills Audubon Society to provide free family bird walks led by an experienced birder and member of the Audubon Society. All ages of birding enthusiasts from beginning through advanced are invited to Lake Sacajawea Park on January 14. We will meet at the Hemlock Plaza near the playground on the Kessler Blvd. side at 8 a.m. Please dress for the weather and bring binoculars for better viewing although the walk leader will have a spotting scope for use. The walk will last about 1 to 1 ½ hours but you can leave the group at any time.

More information: For more information, please call Longview Recreation at 442-5400. (12/21/11)

Year to Year 5K Run & Fitness Walk

Longview Recreation is proud to support the Cowlitz Valley Runners 30 Year Anniversary 5K Run & Fitness Walk held New Year's Eve. This family friendly run and walk is on December 31 starting at 11:50 p.m. The run starts and ends at Youth & Family Link, 907 Douglas Street. The cost is only \$12 if you pre-register, or \$17 the day of the run and children 10 & under pay only \$7 in advance or \$12 on race day. Sweatshirts are available for an additional fee if you register by December 23rd. Please wear reflective clothing or bring a flashlight for safety. Arrive early as there are many pre-race activities. Register the night of the run starting at 9 pm or download a registration form at www.cowlitzvalleyrunners.org/year2year.htm. For more information please contact Mike Vorse at 577-3257 or mcvorse@MinutemanPress.com or www.CowlitzValleyRunners.org. (12/14/11)

Help CUBS choose a new name!

Be a part of the changing look of the local transit system, CUBS. From now until December 16, the public is encouraged to go online and help choose a new name and logo for the transit agency. There are four preliminary bus designs that can be reviewed at www.cubs-bus.com. There is a link to a survey from there, where you can vote on which name and design you like best, or submit your own suggestion.

This re-branding effort is part of the implementation of a ten-year Transit Enhancement Plan the Cowlitz Transit Authority adopted last year. Giving CUBS a new name and identity was suggested by the public, stakeholders, and focus groups during the planning process. Re-branding the system is being done in anticipation of future improvements, including new bus stop signs along revised routes, new schedules, and the addition of new vehicles to the fleet. Other improvements CUBS has recently implemented include hiring a full-time transit manager, adding new service on Saturdays, and other safety improvements.

The results of the survey will be shared with the Cowlitz Transit Authority at their December 28 board meeting.

More information: For more information, please contact CUBS Manager Corey Aldridge at 442-5660. (12/7/11)

CUBS

Master Firefighter Jeff Thompson promoted to Lieutenant

Master Firefighter Jeff Thompson of the Longview Fire Department has been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant after a recent testing process. Fire Chief Daryl McDaniel conducted the promotional ceremony on Sunday, December 11, 2011. Jeff replaces retiring Lt. Steve Morrill. Jeff will be assigned as a supervisor on a 24-hour shift.



Chief Daryl McDaniel stated, "Jeff is an active, engaged member of our organization with great customer service skills. I am very confident he will succeed with his new responsibilities and will continue to support our mission to serve the public."

Lt. Thompson, 43, joined the Longview Fire Department (LFD) as a Firefighter/Emergency Medical Technician in 2001 after serving as a volunteer firefighter for two years in Clark County. He has also served as a training specialist at the LFD and as a fire science instructor for Lower Columbia College.

Lt. Thompson was born in Centerville, Iowa and graduated in 1986 from Mountain View High School in Vancouver. He holds an Associate Degree from Clark College, a Fire Science Degree from Portland Community College, and a BS in Graphic Design from Portland State University.

Lieutenant Thompson resides in LaCenter with his wife Angie and daughter Caitlyn. His favorite activities include involvement with Caitlyn's softball team. (12/14/11)

New bus wraps for Longview's ASK Longview mobile app rolls out this month

Two buses in our area will begin relaying information about reporting problems via ASK Longview's mobile apps this week.

See problems? It's now a "click-fix" with the City's new mobile phone applications for iPhone and Android devices. Potholes that need filling, barking dogs that need quieting, and graffiti that needs removing can now be reported using your iPhone or Android device.

iPhone or Android users simply open the application, select an issue, take a picture, and submit. The application picks up the exact location and sends the issue directly to the Longview staff member who can fix it.

The GPS and camera features built into your device make it simple to alert City of Longview officials about a variety of issues instantly. Residents will know their issue went to the right person without ever going to an office or sitting down at a computer, and they can also receive status updates on those issues. This improvement in customer service allows previous time-consuming visits or phone calls to be handled on the go (mobile) or via the web.

More information: The application can be downloaded by searching for ASK Longview in the Apple App store or Android Market by going to the City's website at www.mylongview.com and clicking on the blue ASK Longview button. There is no charge to download the application. (12/14/11)

The community is invited to a reception for outgoing council members Kurt Anagnostou and Chuck Wallace

The City of Longview invites the community to a public reception recognizing the service of outgoing council members Kurt Anagnostou and Chuck Wallace on Thursday, December 22, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall lobby.

Mr. Anagnostou began his service on Longview City Council in 2000 and has served the past four years as mayor. He has also represented the City on the Cowlitz Economic Development Council board and the Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments board, among others. He is a partner in the law firm of Daggy & Anagnostou.



Mr. Wallace began his service on Longview City Council in 2008. He has served as the City's liaison to the Ethnic Support Council and the Highlands Neighborhood Association. He is currently employed by Accu-Read, Inc.

Please join City Council and staff in wishing them well in their future endeavors, and in thanking them for their contributions to the City organization and the community while serving on the Longview City Council. Attendees will have the opportunity to say a few words during the reception program. Light refreshments will be served. (12/7/11)

Final report for September City Beautiful free dumping program

During the month of September, over 1,000 Longview residents took advantage of free dumping at the Waste Control facility. Over 279 tons were deposited at Waste Control during the month.

The City of Longview commends Waste Control and all of their staff for a job well done in all facets of this event. Subject to Council approval, the City anticipates doing this program again in 2012. (11/30/11)



December 8 Council meeting in brief:

- First reading of Ordinance 3193 to amend the current budget; no council questions or discussion, and no action taken. Budget amendments require two readings, so action will be taken at the next council meeting.
- Approved Resolution 2007 Water Rates providing for a 4.3% increase.
- Approved Resolution 2008 Sewer Rates providing for a 3% increase.
- Approved Resolution 2009 Solid Waste Rates providing no rate increase, but extending the duration of solid waste penalty rates for customers whose recycling container is removed due to continued contamination with garbage.
- Approved Resolution 2010 Stormwater Rates providing for an 11% increase.
- Approved Resolution 2011 declaring certain items as surplus for disposal.
- Approved Resolution 2006 declaring a moratorium on new liquor retail licenses not specifically authorized by Initiative 1183. The Planning Commission and the City Council will consider how to regulate new liquor retailers under 10,000 SF.
- The mayor spoke about his time on the council, the great accomplishments of the city councils during his three terms on the council, and thanked council and staff.
- Approved the 2012 chemical bids for Longview and Kelso water and wastewater treatment chemicals.
- Continued to a future meeting, consideration of a proposed interlocal agreement to change the governance and funding structure for the Kelso regional airport, including increasing each agency's funding share of the airport operating costs.
- Approved the proposed Water Use Efficiency program.
- Directed staff to prepare a resolution to adopt an updated Fair Housing Plan for the City.
- Directed the city manager to execute a contract amendment with ATS to discontinue red light photo enforcement effective February 14, 2012 and continue school zone speed photo enforcement until May 1, 2012. Council will hold a workshop in March 2012 to review data up to that point and consider whether or not to continue school zone photo enforcement beyond May 1, 2012.
- Council chose not to take any action regarding parking congestion around the hospital.

More information: For complete minutes from this meeting, please visit the [Longview City Council agenda page](#).

(12/14/11)

Usher in the holiday season!

The Kelso Longview Chamber of Commerce will usher in the holiday season with the Annual Holiday Lighting in the Civic Center Park on Saturday, December 3, immediately following the "Home for the Holidays" Christmas parade. The parade begins at 5 p.m. in Downtown Longview.

While downtown, be sure to take time to view the gingerbread houses on display at the Merk building. Display, judging, prizes and public viewing will take place in the afternoon.

Following a brief ceremony led by Longview Mayor Kurt Anagnostou, Santa and Mrs. Claus will lead the countdown to light up the park. Children will be invited to sit on Santa's lap for a little order placing and receive a candy cane.

More information: Contact the Kelso Longview Chamber of Commerce at 423-8400. (11/30/11)

City of Longview blood drive scheduled for Monday, December 19

The City of Longview invites residents to join us in a blood drive on Monday, December 19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The bloodmobile will be parked on Broadway in front of City Hall. All of the blood collected by the Southwest Washington Blood Program is used locally, including over 4,000 pints a year at St. John's Medical Center. Your donation is important to the lives of many right here in our community.

More information: This event is sponsored by the Southwest Washington Blood Program. You may make an appointment directly online at <http://www.psbcc.org/>, or contact Sasha Hiners at the City of Longview at 442-5028. (11/30/11)

Celebrate with Parks & Recreation:

Handcrafted Holiday Bazaar

Don't miss Longview Recreation's annual Handcrafted Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, December 3 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the McClelland Center, 951 Delaware St. This festive shopping experience features handcrafted and homemade gifts. Admission is free and over 50 vendors will attend. Parking is close and convenient. Refreshments and snacks are available.

More information: For more information, please contact Longview Recreation at 442-5400, or visit us online at www.mylongview.com. (11/16/11)

Have "Breakfast with Santa" on December 10

Don't miss this great family event scheduled for Saturday, December 10 at the Red Lion Hotel and Conference Center. It is anticipated that tickets will sell out quickly, so be sure to get yours early! Two sessions are available with meal times at either 8:30 a.m. or 10:45 a.m. This event for all ages includes breakfast, crafts, activities, and entertainment. Join Santa and Mrs. Claus along with a special guest appearance by Belle from Beauty and the Beast. Entertainment will be provided by the Dragon Theater and includes a holiday puppet show. Photos with Santa are available. Cost for the event is only \$8.50 each, and no tickets will be sold at the door.

More information: Register now online at www.mylongview.com/reconline, or by phone at 442-5400. (11/30/11)

Celebrate with Longview Public Library:

Fezziwig's Family Frolic @ Longview Public Library

A free festive evening of holiday fun inspired by Dickens' A Christmas Carol will take over the Lower Floor of the Longview Public Library on Dec. 6 from 6-7 p.m.

The Lower Columbia Choral Quartet will sing carols of the season, dressed in Victorian garb. Celebrity readers will read from A Christmas Carol by the fireplace. Tiny Tim Tales will be read by Ann Cordero, Joan Page and The Rev. Kathleen Patton in the new, early literacy, rich learning environment of the Youth Activity Room. Make Dickensian crackers and fragrant pomanders! Play Plum Pudding Charades or Mincemeat Musical Chairs! Cookies and cocoa will be provided by the Friends of the Longview Public Library. (11/16/11)

Holiday concert for Seniors

The Friends of the Longview Library invites you to the 17th Annual Holiday Concert for Seniors. Join us in the Longview Public Library's Koth Gallery to listen to holiday music performed by the Mark Morris After Hours Jazz Choir and the R.A. Long Choir.

The Holiday Concert for Seniors is December 13 from 2 to 4 p.m. Everyone is welcome! Refreshments will be provided.

More information: The Friends of the Longview Library is a non-profit organization that gives volunteer and financial help to the library. If you are interested in joining the Friends, applications are available at the Longview Public Library. Please call Elizabeth Partridge at 442-5321 for more information. (11/30/11)

Teen Council update

Recently, the City of Longview's Teen Council met with Representative Dean Takko of the State of Washington House of Representatives. Mr. Takko represents the 19th Legislative District that includes Longview. Also in attendance was City of Longview Councilmember Ken Botero. The teen council members shared a youth perspective on issues that included teen suicide prevention. Representative Takko and Councilmember Botero listened and provided information of interest to the nine teen council members present. The meeting was held during Longview Recreation's teen late night program. Teen late night provides safe, supervised activities and learning for teenagers on Friday nights.

More information: For more information about the City of Longview Teen Council, please call 442-5400. (11/16/11)

Project READ Literacy Tutor Training

Project READ, the volunteer adult literacy program of the Longview Public Library, needs committed, responsible, and caring individuals interested in volunteering their time as tutors to help an adult in the community improve literacy skills. One-on-one training will be provided.

Tutors are matched with learners who need to learn or improve reading, writing, English conversation and pronunciation, and/or math skills. Tutors work one-on-one in the library with a learner two times a week for an hour each time. Volunteers are asked to make a six-month commitment, but are welcome to stay longer!

Share your love of learning. Make a difference. Become a volunteer tutor at Project READ.

More information: Contact Elizabeth Partridge in the Project READ Corner, or call her at 442.5321 if you wish to schedule training. Pick up a tutor application in the Project READ area of the Longview Library. You can also visit www.longviewlibrary.org/pr.php. (11/16/11)

Storm drain catch basin grates and water meter box lids disappearing from City streets

Storm drain catch basin grates and water meter box lids have been disappearing from city streets recently. In addition to the cost to replace these items, the City of Longview would like to remind residents about the important roles these grates and lids serve to protect the community.

Catch basin grates prevent debris from entering the storm sewer system. This debris could potentially clog the pipes and cause flooding. Meter box lids protect water meters from damage. The grates and lids also protect the public from potentially serious injury if a person were to trip on or fall into these buried facilities.

More information: Please report any missing catch basin grates, manhole covers, or water meter box lids. If you see that a catch basin, manhole, or water meter box is missing its cover or lid, please call the Longview Public Works hotline at 578-0900. (10/12/11)

CAPER documents ready for review

The 2010 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the City of Longview CDBG Program & Longview-Kelso HOME Program are now available for viewing from the City's website at: www.mylongview.com/communitydev/cdbg.html. Scroll down to "Important Links" and click "2010 CAPER."

Printed copies will be distributed on October 13 to public review locations and partnering agencies, and government officials. The 15-day Public Comment Period runs from October 14 through October 28, 2011.

The 2010 CAPER Public Hearing is scheduled for Thursday, October 27 at Longview City Hall, 7 p.m.

More information: The [attached flyer](#) lists the 2010 HOME and CDBG projects, public review locations, and related information. (10/12/11)

Senior Fire Officer Phil Jurmu completes Executive Program

EMMITSBURG, MD.—The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) U.S. Fire Administrations (USFA) National Fire Academy (NFA) announced June 24, 2011, that Phillip J. Jurmu successfully completed the Executive Fire Officer Program (EFOP).

"The intensive EFOP is designed to provide senior fire officers with a broad perspective on various facets of fire administration," according to Acting U.S. Fire Administrator Glenn A. Gaines. "This program provides fire service officers the expertise they need to succeed in today's challenging environment."

Each of the four courses required a written Applied Research Project (ARP) to demonstration application of course theory and concepts to real life situations with the student's own organization. Each of these projects was evaluated through a formal process, and progression through the program was contingent on achieving each of these milestones.

(10/19/11)

National test of the Emergency Alert System on November 9

This Wednesday, November 9, at 11 a.m. PST, there will be a national test of the Emergency Alert System (EAS). This is the alert & warning system which sends tones and an emergency message to radio and television stations.

Here are some key things that you should be aware of:

- This test is expected to last 30 seconds despite initial reports which indicated that it would last as long as 3.5 minutes.
- Some cable television companies expect this test to disrupt programming. Comcast customers can find helpful information at this website: www.comcast.com/nationaleastest
- Some people may not see a familiar banner or crawl across their television screens depending on the technology being used. Some people may only hear a voice during the test that says this is a test.
- FEMA has released a good video about this test at www.fema.gov/medialibrary/media_records/6407
- We want to remind everyone not to call 9-1-1 during this test or broadcast.

Please know that this EAS Alert & Warning system is different than our phone-based notification system. If you have not registered your VOiP or mobile phone to receive direct alerts from Cowlitz Co Emergency Management, based on your geographic address, please go to their [website](#) to sign your phone up. Look for the "Alert Cowlitz County" button on the left side of the page.

More information: Cowlitz County Emergency Management will be paying special attention during this national test to how it affects our local community. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact them at 577-3130. (11/9/11)

Longview Water Use Efficiency Public Meeting scheduled for November 30

The City of Longview's Utilities Operations Division is looking for input from the public about Longview's proposed goals for water conservation and more efficient use of potable water. Utilities Division staff will hold a public meeting on November 30 where you can review Longview's proposed water use efficiency goals and share your ideas regarding water use.

Water is a precious, limited resource. Statewide, providing drinking water for our citizens competes with other water users that include agriculture, industry, recreation, and maintaining adequate stream flow for fish. Longview's water use efficiency goals are intended to:

- Help ensure a reliable long-term water supply.
- Promote good stewardship of the state's water resources.
- Ensure efficient operation and management of water system.
- Reduce energy use and save money.

The public meeting to review Longview's water use efficiency goals will take place at the Utilities Operations Center at 1460 Industrial Way in Longview. The event will include an open house and tours of the Utilities Operations facility and equipment led by utility staff from 6 to 8 p.m. The Water Use Efficiency Meeting will start at 7 p.m.; however, input from the public will be taken throughout the open house.

More information: Contact the Public Works Utilities Division at 442-5700. (11/9/11)

November 3 Council meeting highlights

- Received a presentation and report from Eric Yakovich of the Cowlitz County Guidance Association on behalf of the Behavioral Health Transformation Coalition regarding unmet needs for behavioral health services in Cowlitz County, the loss and potential future loss of state funding, and advocating for support for a 0.1% sales tax increase to fund behavioral health services in the county. Council will consider whether or not to support the tax increase at their November 17 regular meeting. The County Commissioners can impose the tax increase without a citizen vote and are tentatively scheduled to consider it at their November 29 meeting.
- Presented service awards (a tree sapling and certificate) to 30 and 35 year employees Steve Morrill, Fire Department, Ed Jones, Police Department, and Craig Craddock, Sewer Division. Not in attendance but recognized as well: Jon Lumijarvi, Street Division, and James Walke, Water Division.
- Held a public hearing regarding proposed revenue for the 2012 General Fund budget and directed that a resolution be presented at the Nov. 17 regular meeting to adopt the tax levy rate for 2012. In addition to the normal budget review and projections, the finance director presented information about a refund levy allowed by state law to recover from all other property tax payers, the amount of the \$430,000 refund paid to Peace Health recently. Council expressed reservations about the potential impact to property owners from implementing the refund levy because Longview, Longview School District, Cowlitz County, and the Port of Longview are each eligible for a refund levy; they noted Longview School District seemed to have the greatest need given the potential for additional cuts due to the state budget shortfall.

More information: The actual minutes from this Council Meeting will be posted on the City's website at <http://longview.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. (11/9/11)

West Longview Sewer Diversion Project will affect Ocean Beach Highway traffic

Crews will be performing sewer diversion project work on Ocean Beach Highway between 36th and 37th Avenues through the week of December 12. Intermittent lane closures of eastbound and westbound lanes should be expected. Two-way traffic will be maintained, but at times may be reduced to one lane in each direction. Construction advisory speed is posted at 25 MPH through the construction zone. Local access will be maintained via posted detours. Traffic in all directions will be affected and motorists should use extreme caution while traveling through the work zone. Motorists are encouraged to use alternate routes.

Left turns onto 36th Ave from Ocean Beach Hwy will be intermittently prohibited during the work on Ocean Beach Highway. The north leg of the intersection at 36th Ave. and Ocean Beach Highway will be closed starting approximately November 1. The intersection at 37th Ave. and Ocean Beach Highway will be closed starting approximately November 14.

The work schedule is flexible and unpredictable; closures of the 36th and 37th Avenues intersections may occur earlier or later than the estimated dates. (11/2/11)

October 27 Council meeting highlights

- Held a public hearing for the 2010 Home and Community Development Block Grant annual report; no action required.
- Approved the following Lodging Tax Advisory Committee funding recommendations for 2012:
 - Cowlitz County Tourism Bureau Awesome Brochure - \$4,000
 - Highlander Cycling Grand Prix Criterium and Squirrel Fest - \$3,000
 - Longview Soccer Club Cowlitz Kickoff Classic Tournament - \$4,000
 - Visual Arts Commission Longview Outdoor Gallery Brochures - \$1,130
 - Go 4th Festival Association - \$10,000
 - Cowlitz County Tourism Bureau Hidden Treasures Brochure - \$3,500
- Certified Complete the 15th Avenue Pavement Repair Project.
- Approved Lower Columbia Community Action (CAP) request to reclassify their new 6 bedroom home under construction on 33rd Ave as permanent supportive housing rather than transitional housing.
- Approved a \$125,000 grant from Dept. of Ecology for Longview to update our shore-lines management program and regulations.
- Approved a \$69,300 contract with BergerABAM to develop a plan to replace the failing Beech storm drain box culvert and convert it and the median into a bioswale/ditch with pedestrian amenities as per the Highlands Revitalization Plan; evaluate the possibility of reducing Beech Street from four lanes to two lanes to provide more width to implement the bioswale and Highlands Revitalization Plan concept for the median; and develop a low impact development streetscape design concept for the entire stretch of Beech Street. and 30th Avenue from Oregon Way to Washington Way.
- Approved a \$178,235 contract with BergerABAM to develop streetscape design concepts for the Downtown Commerce zone, and prepare construction plans and specifications for the streetscape design on Commerce Avenue from Washington Way to Hemlock.
- Approved a \$43,350 contract with BergerABAM to develop a low impact development streetscape design concept for Tennant Way from 7th Avenue to 15th Avenue.
- Was advised by staff the Lake Sacajawea Drawdown Study was being discontinued due to another algae bloom and our inability to drawdown the lake to flush the algae due to the low lake level and lack of rebound after the last drawdown; the lake will be flushed for a few weeks provided Cowlitz River turbidity remains low. (11/2/11)

Turkey Trot Fun Run & Walk

Don't miss this annual family tradition on November 24 at Lake Sacajawea Park in the Lions Shelter area (Nichols Boulevard/17th Avenue). Runners, joggers and walkers may register starting at 7:30 am for \$10, or pre-register for only \$8 online at www.mylongview.com/reconline. Register by phone at 442-5400. Tech and tee shirts are available to order until November 17. The run starts at 8:30 a.m. and consists of one lap around the lake. There will be plenty of prizes and awards. This is an excellent healthy way to start off the holidays!

More information: For more information, please call Longview Recreation at 442-5400 or visit us online at www.mylongview.com. (10/26/11)

Get rid of outdated prescription medicine:

Longview Police to participate in National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on October 29

Area residents are encouraged to get rid of outdated, unwanted pills during the third annual National Prescription Drug Take Back Day scheduled for Saturday, October 29. The annual event is sponsored by the federal U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and the Cowlitz Substance Abuse Coalition.

Longview Police Department will accept unwanted prescription drugs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. that day at its main station located at 1351 Hudson St. in downtown Longview. Captain Deborah Johnson will be present to take in the drugs and answer questions.

LPD has been collecting prescription pills weekdays since September 2009. The department took in 200 pounds of medication during last year's take back day, according to LPD property-evidence technician Ron Cryderman. That's 22.5% more than the 155 pounds the department took in the first year of its drug drop-off program.

The DEA started the take back day in 2009 to accept potentially dangerous expired, unused and unwanted prescription medications for destruction to keep them out of the hands of drug abusers and the water supply.

"Accidental overdose deaths from inappropriate use of prescription pills have exceeded the death rate from motor vehicle accidents in some populations in the State of Washington. This is one of the biggest health risks to our kids in Cowlitz County," said Dr. Brian T. Hoyt, emergency department medical director at St. John Medical Center.

"Please take advantage of this program to properly dispose of your old pills. We don't need any more tragic accidental overdoses," Hoyt said.

LPD accepts unwanted prescription medication during regular business hours, which are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The Cowlitz County Sheriff's Office, located in the Hall of Justice at 312 SW First Ave., recently started its own program to accept unwanted prescription drugs.

CCSO has a drug drop-off box in the lobby, which is accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The box is well labeled and supplied with plastic bags. The drugs should be placed in. Pills should be removed from their original container and placed in the plastic

baggie. If the drug is in liquid form, it should remain in the bottle and identifiable information should be removed from the container. The bag should be put in a chute that goes into the secure box. CCSO also provides separate sharps container to dispose of syringes with needles.

Area residents may also drop off unused prescription medications in Castle Rock, Kalama and Woodland.

- Castle Rock Pharmacy at 117 First Ave. SW accepts the medications from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday–Friday and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays.
- Godfrey's Pharmacy at 270 N. First St. in Kalama accepts the medications from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday.
- Woodland Police Department at 100 Davidson Ave. accepts the medications from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The station is closed noon to 1 p.m.
- Hi-School Pharmacy at 1365 Lewis River Rd. in Woodland accepts the medications 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesdays.

More information: For more information, please call the Cowlitz Substance Abuse Coalition at 577-3041 or go to http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/index.html.

(10/26/11)

Pickup of leaves from City-owned trees runs October through January

From October through January, leaves from City of Longview maintained trees only may be placed in the street for pick up by the City's Street Division.

"It's important that we remove fallen leaves from these areas so that vehicles and pedestrian traffic can move safely throughout the city, and to minimize flooding due to clogged catch basins" says Street Supervisor Rick Chinchin. "Our crews use shovels and pitchforks, and street sweepers, front-end loaders and dump trucks, to load and haul leaves to pre-designated areas for composting."

- Chinchin asks that the following guidelines be followed when placing leaves in City streets, which are considered public right of ways: Place only leaves from City-maintained trees. Yard debris is the property owner's responsibility. Leaves from non-city owned trees can be taken to the Waste Control Transfer Station from October 1 through April 15 for a fee.
- Place leaves in rows about one foot from the curb to allow for drainage. This also makes it easier for the street sweeper to pick them up.

- If the sweeper is unable to pick the leaves up, a Street crew will remove them with a front end loader.
- Do not put branches or sticks in leaf piles as it may damage the sweeper.
- Be patient. Leaf pick up is on a structured schedule and will be picked up as soon as possible.
- Help prevent flooding on your street by clearing leaves from catch basin grates until City crews are able to pick up the leaves on your street.

More information: Call the Street Supervisor at 442.5620. (10/26/11)

Police online auction of unclaimed property

The Longview Police Department will soon be auctioning unclaimed property through the Internet, pursuant to Washington State Law. The web site at www.propertyroom.com will be conducting the auction of Longview's unclaimed property like it does for police departments across the nation. The process is a much more profitable way to dispose of unclaimed properties.

A complete list of Longview's auction items is available at the Longview Police Department through October 15, 2011, or viewable online on the City's web site at <http://www.mylongview.com/police/auction.html>. Claims against property listed on the auction block must be made in writing to the Longview Police Department prior to October 15, 2011. Interested persons may view the auction items and submit their bids by logging onto www.propertyroom.com on about October 20, 2011.

All online auction items are contained within specific categories. Simply click on a category and follow prompts for entering bids. Bidding for unclaimed properties provided by Longview will commence on approximately October 20 and will continue until the date indicated on the site. Bidders are responsible for shipping and handling of online purchases, and all sales are final.

The Longview Police Department has been using online auction services since September 2003 and has submitted over 3,000 items. In 2010, 185 items were auctioned for a return of over \$2,196.00.

The Longview Police Department makes no guarantee or warranty, expressed or implied, of any nature as to the condition of the goods offered for auction. (10/5/11)



Make a difference in your community.

Got some spare time? Interested in conserving our historic treasures, making recommendations on improving Longview's visual artistic development, or furthering cultural diversity? Why not devote a little time to improve our community by volunteering on one of Longview's many boards or commissions?

At the end of this year, 31 terms on Longview's various boards and commissions will end and need to be filled. In addition, other vacancies can occur during the year. Please call 442.5454 to request our application for serving on one of Longview's boards and commissions, or visit us online at www.mylongview.com to download the application or learn more about specific boards. Applications require a background check and additional information about applicants. Applications for these vacant positions will be accepted through October 31, 2011, but applications may be submitted year-round.

Current vacancies include:

- Appeal Board of Adjustment (2)
- Citizen's Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials (1)
- Downtown Advisory Committee (5)
- Golf Course Advisory Committee (3)
- Historic Preservation Commission (4)
- Library Board of Trustees (1)
- Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (4)
- Longview Stormwater Advisory Committee (3)
- Mosquito Control Disability Board (1)
- Parks & Recreation Board (2)
- Sister City Commission (4)
- Visual Arts Commission (1)

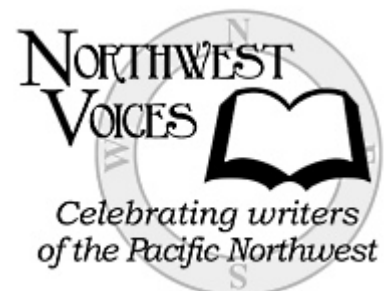
(10/5/11)

NW Voices welcomes Mary Doria Russell

Join us in a special Northwest Voices event on Wednesday, October 12, with a pair of events featuring Mary Doria Russell, the bestselling and award-winning author of *The Sparrow* and *Doc*. The first event is a workshop to be held at LCC in room Main 119 at 3:30 p.m. The second is a special, after-hours reading at the Longview Public Library at 7 p.m.

The daughter of a Navy nurse and a Marine Corps drill sergeant, Mary Doria Russell's early talent for a "dismaying" vocabulary turned into a writing career that includes four bestselling novels and numerous international awards. Her fifth novel, *Doc*, explores the life of Wyatt Earp and gambler/dental surgeon John Henry Holliday. Before she began writing, she earned a doctorate in biological anthropology and taught at Case Western Reserve University School of Dentistry. Her many awards include a Campbell Award, an Arthur C. Clarke Prize, an ALA Readers Choice Award, and a 2005 Pulitzer nomination for *A Thread of Grace*, her third novel. Russell currently lives in Ohio with her husband Don, a golden retriever named Leo Lebowksi, and a tubby, opinionated dachshund who answers to the name Annie Fannie Sweet Feet.

All events are free and open to the public. Northwest Voices is funded by the Longview Public Library and Lower Columbia College, Friends of the LPL, LPL Foundation, LCC Foundation, and LCC's ASLCC. (10/5/11)



See problems? It's a "click-fix" with the City's new mobile phone applications for iPhone and Android devices.

Potholes that need filling, barking dogs that need quieting, and graffiti that needs removing can now be reported using your iPhone or Android device with the launch of ASK Longview's new mobile application.

iPhone or Android users simply open the application, select an issue, take a picture, and submit. The application picks up the exact location and sends the issue directly to the Longview staff member who can fix it.

The GPS and camera features built into your device make it simple for residents to alert City of Longview officials about a variety of issues around the clock while they're mobile. Residents will know their issue went to the right person without ever going to an office or sitting down at a computer, and they can also receive status updates on those issues. This improvement in customer service allows previous time-consuming visits or phone calls to be handled on the go (mobile) or via the web.

More information: The application can be downloaded by searching for ASK Longview in the Apple App store or Android Market by going to the City's website at www.mylongview.com and clicking on the blue ASK Longview button. There is no charge to download the application. (10/5/11)



Got a question? Just Ask Longview!

The City of Longview makes it easy for you to contact us with your requests, questions, and concerns. ASK Longview is a new tracking system that will allow you to contact us 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The system features simple pull-down menus and is a breeze to use.

To make a request or leave a comment or question, just click the blue "ASK Longview" button on our home page at www.mylongview.com.

ASK Longview will greatly improve the way the City handles your requests by:

- ◆ Creating a unique case number for each request so that you can easily track its status at any time
- ◆ Automatically informing you about the status of your request and notifying you when the request has been completed



@ www.mylongview.com

Your 2012 Longview City Council

Longview City Council invites you to share information or ask questions about the City's goals by contacting them via email by logging onto the City Council web page at www.mylongview.com/government/CityCouncil.htm, or by using one of the email addresses listed below. You may also call a Council member at home; their phone numbers are listed in the local phone books.



Mike Wallin

Position #1, council member since January 2012
Current term expires: 12/31/15
mike.wallin@mylongview.com



Tom Hutchinson

Position #2, council member since January 2012
Current term expires: 12/31/15
tom.hutchinson@mylongview.com



Ken Botero

Position #3, council member since January 2008
Current term expires: 12/31/11
ken.botero@mylongview.com



Don Jensen

Position #4, council member since January 2000
Current term expires: 12/31/11
don.jensen@mylongview.com



Mary Jane Melink, Mayor ProTem

Position #5, council member since January 2006
Current term expires: 12/31/13
maryjane.melink@mylongview.com



Chet Makinster

Position #6, council member since January 2010
Current term expires: 12/31/13
chet.makinster@mylongview.com



Dennis Weber, Mayor

Position #7, council member since January 2001
Current term expires: 12/31/13
dennis.weber@mylongview.com