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I N S I D E

Council Connection	2
City Manager's Clipboard	3
Public Works Update	4
Parks & Recreation	5
Police Report	6
Community Spotlight	7
Community Calendar	8
Frequently Called Numbers	8



fall 2005

the city of lakewood newsletter

LAKEWOOD NAMED ONE OF 100 BEST COMMUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE BY AMERICA'S PROMISE

Lakewood and Pierce County were recently named one of the 100 BEST Communities for Young People by the America's Promise Alliance.

America's Promise reported that Lakewood was selected as a winner because "The Lakewood Community Collaboration mobilizes the city's government, human services agencies, schools, volunteers, service groups, private businesses, faith communities and non-profits to address the needs of young people." This award symbolizes the commitment of our partners and recognizes the value of our collective efforts as one community reinforcing the power of partnerships and creating innovative approaches to address the issues that our youth face every day.

Lakewood linked with America's Promise to create Lakewood's Promise in the Fall of 1997 to carry out the Five Promises that were established by America's Promise founder General Colin Powell. In November 2003, Lakewood was named as an Outstanding Community of Promise; and a year later, in October 2004, America's Promise designated

Lakewood as one of its model communities in the nation.

Through a vigorous competition process the 100 Best entries were evaluated on how each community fulfilled the five essential

promises critical to the well-being of young people: Caring adults who are actively involved in their lives; safe places in which to learn and grow; a healthy start toward adulthood; effective education that builds marketable skills; and opportunities to help others.

Lakewood and other winners were chosen by a distinguished selection panel of civic, business and nonprofit leaders, including United Way of America President Brian

Gallagher, U.S. Chamber of Commerce President Tom Donohue, former U. S. Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala, baseball great Cal Ripken Jr. and former Denver Mayor Wellington Webb. A complete list of winners can be found at www.americaspromise.org.

"It is wonderful to learn first-hand how outstanding communities are making a difference in people's lives – especially their young people", said Brian Gallagher, President and Chief Executive Officer of United Way of America.

"Lakewood is honored to be recognized as one of the 100 Best Communities for Children. Our city will celebrate its 10th anniversary next year, and this award symbolizes how far we've come in providing for our youth. Lakewood is dedicated to helping the next generation be the best that it can be," said Deputy Mayor McGovern.

"One of the most important things that people in any society can do is to make sure that they are taking care of the future of their children.

This award shows that Lakewood/Pierce County is among the best in the nation at doing this," said Pierce County Executive John W. Ladenburg.

To honor the 100 Best communities selected, America's Promise held a special event on November 2 in Washington D.C. The celebration and proceeds went toward helping the children impacted by Hurricane Katrina.



The Tillicum Summer Outreach Program is a great example of how Lakewood comes together for our youth. The Tillicum Summer Outreach program was supported by the City of Lakewood, Clover Park School District and the Boys & Girls Club.

America's Promise will be sponsoring a year-long celebration including a special day in each of the winning communities and a series of regional forums across the country that will enable communities to share their success stories and learn effective strategies from one another to further enrich the lives of our young people.

To get involved with Lakewood's Promise call the City's Human Services Division at 589-2489.

To keep up on the latest happenings in Lakewood, sign up to receive City Happenings. City Happenings is the City's bi-weekly mini-newsletter published every other Friday. You can subscribe on-line at www.cityoflakewood.us in the News & Events section.

Visit the City's website, www.cityoflakewood.us, for the latest news and events as well as great information about the City of Lakewood.

C O N T A C T U S

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COUNCIL CONNECTION

LAKEWOOD'S CITY COUNCIL SAYS FAREWELL TO FIRST MAYOR AND ORIGINAL COUNCIL MEMBER, BILL HARRISON

Bill Harrison was one of the co-chairs of the cityhood initiative and was elected to the very first Lakewood City Council in 1995. Bill is stepping down from the Council at the end of 2005 after serving for a total of ten years on the Council, eight as Mayor. During his tenure on the City Council, Bill has worked tirelessly on behalf of Lakewood serving in many different capacities and on many different boards and committees. Bill has truly shaped the direction of our City. Lakewood owes a great deal to Bill Harrison's leadership.

The Council would like to offer Bill our sincerest thanks and appreciation for his hard work and dedication to our community. We wish Bill and his family the best.

LAKEWOOD SEWER SURCHARGE WILL BRING SEWER SERVICE TO TWO NEIGHBORHOODS

Council reduces storm water fees in effort to offset cost.

At the City of Lakewood's request, the Pierce County Council approved a sewer surcharge on Lakewood sewer users to help pay for extending sewer service to the American Lake Gardens and Tillicum neighborhoods. The surcharge only impacts Lakewood residents and businesses and will not be charged to any other Pierce County sewer customers.

The sewer surcharge would cost a Lakewood single-family residential sewer customer about \$1.05 a month over a twenty year period. However, recently, the City Council reduced storm water management fees, effective January 2006, for Lakewood residents by 10%. For the owner of a single-family home that will be about \$0.72 per month, offsetting a great deal of the increase in the sewer fee. The City Council is very mindful of the impacts of fees and taxes on Lakewood citizens and hopes

that this reduction will help to balance out the total costs paid to the City by the average resident.

The sewer surcharge will be used to pay off a \$6 million low interest State loan that the City intends to use to finance a majority of the sewer extension project. The total cost of extending the main sewer line to the two neighborhoods is about \$9.1 million. The City has \$2.2 million in federal grants and plans on providing about \$1 million in "in-kind" services in addition to the \$6 million loan.

Pierce County's willingness to implement the surcharge is part of a larger agreement between the County and the City that will make this project possible. The Council truly appreciates Pierce County's cooperation in this project. By implementing this surcharge, we are paving the way for a better future for these neighborhoods and opening up this part of Pierce County for greater economic development.

Sewer service is expected to generate economic development in the area. There are 120 acres of industrial property in American Lake Gardens that will be ready for development after sewer lines are completed. Future industrial development in this area will help to create jobs and raise property values. More than 200 jobs could be created initially with more than 2,000 possible when the industrial area is fully built out. The expansion of sewer service will also allow for growth and redevelopment in the existing commercial area of Tillicum along I-5. This will also add more jobs and increase property values.

Based on census data, American Lake Gardens and Tillicum are Lakewood's lowest income neighborhoods. These neighborhoods are home to about 5,000 residents and a number of businesses all of which are on septic systems. The area also has two schools and a number of apartment complexes that solely rely on the use of septic systems. The City understands that aging septic systems fail over time creating the potential for a serious public health problem. In addition, they add to the degradation of the area. The Lakewood City Council hopes that by extending sewer service, these areas will benefit from future economic revitalization. These two neighborhoods were excluded when the rest of Lakewood was sewered with the help of significant federal funding approximately 20 years ago. Without this help from the rest of the community, sewer service to these areas is highly unlikely within the foreseeable future. Without sewer service the potential for revitalization of the area is lost along with an opportunity for it to become a more viable contributor to the City as a whole.

The Lakewood City Council has been very encour-



Lakewood City Council

Pictured left to right. Top row - Pad Finnigan, Helen McGovern (Deputy Mayor), Doug Richardson (Mayor), Walter Neary.

Bottom row - John Arbeeny, Bill Harrison, Claudia Thomas.

CONTACT THE CITY COUNCIL

council@cityoflakewood.us

(253)589-2489

6000 Main Street SW, Lakewood, WA 9899

aged by the support of Lakewood residents for this project. In a community survey completed last summer, more than 60% of respondents indicated they would support paying more on their sewer bills to bring sewer service to these neighborhoods. For more information contact Don Wickstrom or Desiree Brown, City of Lakewood Public Works, 983-7795, or Joe Hannan, City of Lakewood Economic Development Administrator, 589-2489.

VOTERS DECIDE INITIATIVE & REFERENDUM QUESTION

Lakewood voters approved an advisory ballot regarding the City's adoption of the the Initiative & Referendum process during the recent election.

The power of initiative enables voters of a city to directly initiate and enact legislation. The process involves an initial petition, containing a specified number of signatures, which proposes an ordinance for adoption. If the number of signatures is sufficient, the issue must either be adopted by the city council or submitted to the entire electorate of the city for adoption or rejection at an election. The power of referendum is the ability for citizens to have an ordinance, which has been enacted by the city council, submitted to the voters for their approval or rejection. The process also includes the filing of a petition, with a required minimum number of registered voters, prior to the effective date of the ordinance. If the required number of signatures are obtained on the petition, then the ordinance is suspended from becoming effective until it has either been repealed by the city council or is submitted to the voters for approval or rejection at an election.

The City Council will likely take up this issue at an upcoming meeting. For information on when the Council will take up this item, visit our website at www.cityoflakewood.us.

COFFEE WITH THE MAYOR

Join us for Coffee with the Mayor the second Friday of each month at 7:30 a.m. at the St. Clare Hospital Resource Center. Coffee with the Mayor is a great way to find out about the latest developments in Lakewood. It is an informal forum that lasts an hour, and occasionally features a guest speaker. There is always time for questions and comments.

CITY TALK

Every Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., the Mayor or another Council member is available to meet one-on-one with Lakewood residents. No appointment is necessary, just drop by City Hall.

CITY MANAGER'S CLIPBOARD



Andrew Neiditz,
City Manager

CITY MANAGER'S COLUMN

The City recently received notice that we're a finalist for a major grant from the State's Interagency Council for Outdoor Recreation (IAC) to redevelop the boat launch at American Lake Park. The grant

will be about \$600,000, to be matched by \$200,000 in local funds, and the points scored in the selection process make it look very likely the award will come through. It also looks like it will be the largest such grant in the State of Washington for this funding cycle.

While it may still be too early to celebrate this pending success story, we should take stock of the City's track record in "grantsmanship", which in effect, leveraging local funds to earn special dedicated outside resources to make improvements for the City of Lakewood. The grants we receive often reflect the special needs of this community, but also reflect the resourcefulness of City staff in pursuing these competitive selection processes. Examples of the variety of City grants range from a recently awarded \$1,000 from the Association of Washington Cities for a diversity training program for city employees, to a \$15,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice to buy body armor for our police officers, to a \$10,688 grant from Major League Baseball's Baseball Tomorrow Fund to purchase equipment and scholarships for our 2006 baseball/softball season.

On a more major scale, we've received \$734,000 for improvements to Bridgeport Way from 83rd to Steilacoom Blvd from the State Transportation Improvement Board, and \$125,000 in federal funds for Community Oriented Policing. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) federal funding, provides about \$700,000 each year to Lakewood projects; this year over \$140,000 in CDBG funds will provide Harry Todd Park with a skate park and waterfront improvements.

Along the Pacific Highway Corridor, the City has received \$3,500,000 for roadway improvements in the area of the Sound Transit station, \$850,000 for intersection improvements at Bridgeport and Pacific Hwy, and \$2,200,000 to assist with the sewer line connection to Tillicum and American Lake Gardens. The City pursues grant opportunities not simply to use some other agency's funds, but to facilitate our ability to meet our community's priority goals — public safety and economic development.

LAKWOOD PREPARES TO CELEBRATE 10 YEARS OF CITY-HOOD

On February 28, 2006, Lakewood will turn ten years old and we plan to celebrate this milestone all year long by incorporating the ten year anniversary celebration into all of the City's events.

We will kick off this special year on February 21, 2006 with an Open House at City Hall from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. The Open House will include tours of City Hall, informational displays, entertainment, posters and essays created by Lakewood students and refreshments. Please join us for this special celebration.

Look for more information about our tenth anniversary celebration in the next edition of Lakewood Connections and on our website, www.cityoflakewood.us.

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

One of the primary goals of the staff at the City of Lakewood is to provide the highest possible level of customer service at all times. In support of this goal the City likes to recognize one staff member each quarter for his or her exemplary performance. It does so by awarding a deserving recipient with the title of Employee of the Quarter.

In order to receive this award, an employee must first be nominated by his or her co-workers for outstanding performance.

For the summer 2005 quarter this honor was given to Dennis Higashiyama, Recreation Coordinator for the Parks & Recreation Department. One reason Dennis was selected for this award is because of his dedication to Lakewood's youth. He has done extensive work to help with the creation of several different youth programs in addition to volunteering his own time outside of work. He was also selected because of his great resourcefulness, being able to do so much even when given few resources.

For the fall 2005 quarter, Julie Skaw, Network Information Systems Engineer, was honored as Employee of the Quarter. Julie was recognized for her "can-do" spirit and her ability to rise to a challenge. She was also selected because of her talent for being able to effectively communicate the highly technical aspects of her job with those who aren't as comfortable with technology.

Both Julie and Dennis are great team players who build strong relationships with fellow staff as well as with other organizations in the community. Their helpful attitudes and on-going commitment to customer service make them both well deserving recipients of the Employee of the Quarter.



A MESSAGE FROM CLOVER PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT DR. DORIS MCEWEN

When I became the proud superintendent of Clover Park School District in July 2000, I introduced the community to my version of the ABCs. A—is for Accepting no excuses for every child learning; B—is for Building Bridges and C—is for Communicating and Celebrating.

With the recent release of Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) results, Lakewood area residents have a lot to Celebrate. Here's why!

- Clover Park fourth graders achieved new highs in reading, with more than 70 percent of them reading at or above standard.
- Seventh and tenth grade scores on all content areas (reading, math and writing) are also at all-time highs. We have seen more than 20 percent gains in reading from 2003 to 2005.
- For the first time, more than 60 percent of tenth graders achieved the reading and writing standards.
- Our tenth graders scored higher than the state average in writing for the first time.
- Oakwood Elementary is one of only two schools in western Washington and one of six in the entire state to come off of the school improvement list.

Our students have made tremendous progress and we need to celebrate that. I applaud our teachers, support staff, principals, families and, of course, our students, who have worked so hard to make good progress.

However, as a school district, we have a long way to go. Our mission is to teach *all* children what they need to know to succeed and contribute to their community. Let me reassure you that we aren't resting on our successes and won't lose our focus. This is a critical time for our district, our students and our community.

As citizens of Lakewood, I encourage you to get involved with your neighborhood school. I encourage you to attend music performances, sports activities, volunteer or become a mentor for a student.

Please show our students you care and want to be part of their success. Together, we can make our students and our community successful.



Dr. Doris McEwen,
Superintendent,
Clover Park School District

PUBLIC WORKS SPOTLIGHT

PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT UPDATES

Leach Creek Culvert Replacement Project

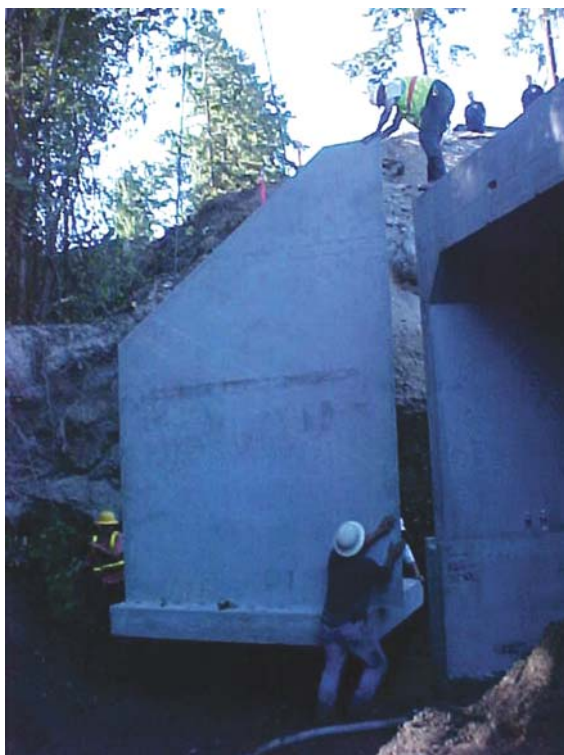
Completed: This project replaced an undersized culvert which carries Leach Creek under Bridgeport Way with a larger open bottom box culvert. This action will allow salmon and other fish to spawn further upstream in the watershed. The work also included enhancements in the creek upstream and downstream from the new structure (root wads, pools and riffles, etc) which will provide a good fish habitat. The project was substantially completed in mid-October. The contractor paved Bridgeport Way on Saturday, October 22. On Saturday November 5 a group of volunteer citizens, organized by the Pierce Conservation District Stream Team, replanted the banks of the channel within the construction area with nearly 900 trees and shrubs. This was a joint project between the cities of Lakewood and University Place. The project cost, including design, box culvert purchase, and construction totaled \$1,320,000. The cities received grant funds totaling \$818,000 from the state Salmon Recovery Funding Board. The rest of the project costs were split between the two cities.

Farwest Dr/116th St Storm Drainage Improvements

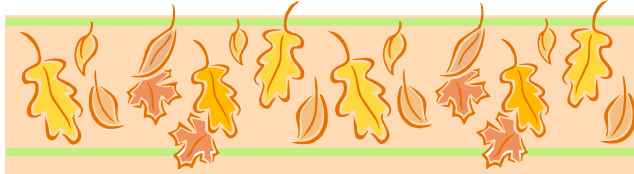
Completed: This project replaced approximately 500 feet of undersized stormwater pipe and related work. Due to the inadequate pipe size this neighborhood would frequently flood during substantial rain storms. The work was completed in early September. The project cost was \$200,000, and funded from the City's stormwater utility.

Gramercy Place Water Quality Improvements Completed: Work on this project consisted of installing a water quality vault – a Vortechs™ unit – just upstream of a discharge point into Lake Steilacoom. The water quality vault will reduce the amount of contaminants carried in the stormwater runoff that enters the lake. The three week project began in late September and was completed in mid-October. The project cost was \$115,000, and funded from the City's stormwater utility.

Purchasing Wetland Properties: The City is negotiating with a number of property owners to purchase several acres of wetlands located adjacent to Flett Creek. The property will be retained for stormwater flood control and fish and wildlife habitat. Some of the property may be included in a



Crews installing the new box culvert at Leach Creek.



DON'T "LEAVE" ALL THE FALL CLEANING TO US!

Help us prevent flooding in your neighborhood this fall by clearing leaves and other debris from the storm drains and ditches around your home. Our maintenance crews do their best to keep Lakewood's many drains clean, but they can't clear off all the leaves before the rain starts. You can help out by doing a little fall cleaning of your own! By using a shovel, rake, or push-broom to clear away the leaves, you can quickly solve the problem. Please don't rake or blow leaves into the roadway – bag the leaves or put the leaves in your yard waste container.

Thanks for your help!

wetland mitigation banking project. The area is north of Steilacoom Blvd. bounded between Lakewood Drive and Bridgeport Way.

SolarBee Installation

on Lake Steilacoom: As part of an agreement between the City of Lakewood and the Lake Steilacoom Improvement Club, the City agreed to fund the majority of costs to install nine water circulating units (called SolarBee®) on Lake Steilacoom. The units have proven effective through-

out the United States in controlling toxic algae blooms. After permits are obtained from the state Departments of Fish & Wildlife and Natural Resources, the units will be installed in the lake. The units should be installed during November.

Lake Steilacoom aquatic vegetation management plan:

A public meeting was held on October 11 at Lakewood City Hall to discuss the framework for an aquatic vegetation management plan for Lake Steilacoom. This

plan is mandated by the state Department of Ecology and required before any further lake management actions can occur.

Western State Hospital Frontage Improvements (LID 1102):

This project includes construction of street-lights along Steilacoom Blvd and sidewalks along 87th Avenue and Sentinel Road adjacent to Western State Hospital as part of Local Improvement District (LID) 1102. Project may begin in late fall 2005. However, due to material shortages, this project may need to be delayed until spring 2006.

Gravelly Lake Drive / Pacific Hwy Frontage Improvements (LID 1103):

Construction of sidewalks along the frontage of the Union 76 gas station began October 2005 and should be completed by the end of November.

Pacific Highway Improvements:

This project includes curb, gutter, sidewalks, and street lighting along Pacific Highway between Bridgeport Way and 108th Street. The City is waiting for environmental approval and right-of-way acquisition. It is anticipated that construction will begin in winter 2005 and last for approximately six months.

Steilacoom Blvd / Lakewood Drive Sidewalk Project (LID 1101):

Construction began in August on sidewalks on Lakewood Drive and Steilacoom Blvd as part of Local Improvement District (LID) 1101. As part of construction, temporary lane closures will be required. Your patience in traveling through this work zone is greatly appreciated. Construction is expected to be substantially completed in January 2006.

If you have any questions about any of these projects please contact the Public Works Department at 983-7795 or publicworks@cityoflakewood.us.



Construction is under way on Steilacoom Blvd. The project will add curbs, gutters, sidewalks, lighting and landscaping and is being paid for by the property owners through a local improvement district.

PARKS & RECREATION

AMERICAN LAKE BOAT LAUNCH IMPROVEMENTS

The City of Lakewood received notice in October that we will receive a \$600,000 state grant to redevelop the boat launch located on the north shore of American Lake at American Lake Park. The launch is currently in very poor. The buildings are old and falling down. The asphalt and concrete surfaces that make up the launch are a patchwork of broken concrete, with holes and metal rebar showing. There is limited access to the launch and the transient floats are falling apart. This deteriorated conditions results from heavy use and lack of maintenance by the previous caretaker. The good news is the site can be re-configured and restored to meet the needs of the boating community.

Site improvements will include demolishing and removing the structures on the property, adding parking, improving the circulation pattern to open up access to three renovated launch ramps, adding transient dock facilities and other park amenities. Total project estimate is \$800,000. The American Lake Improvement Club donated \$5,000 towards this project and the City is looking for additional funds to offset project costs.

OFF LEASH AREA AT FORT STEILACOOM PARK

Volunteers representing Protect our Pets (POP) have worked hard this fall building a fence around a 22 acre off leash area at Fort Steilacoom Park. In 2003 and 2004 the City and County worked together to develop a master site plan for Fort Steilacoom Park. This plan designated an area in the southeast portion of the park as an off leash area. Because the City and County both require pets to be on leash in parks, the County stated that the area could not be used as an off leash area until a fence was built and a management plan was created for this area. POP was formed to establish, promote and maintain an off-leash area for both dog owners and their companions and enable them to socialize and exercise in a safe environment. The off leash area will be open during regular park hours (dawn to dusk). If you want to find out more about POP check out their website at www.parkdogs.com.



Dogs and people enjoy the new off leash area built by volunteers at Fort Steilacoom Park.

HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING CELEBRATION & CRAFT FAIR

All Lakewood residents are invited to the tenth annual tree lighting and holiday celebration on Friday, Dec. 2, from 4 to 6:30 p.m., at Lakewood City Hall, 6000 Main Street in Lakewood.

For the first time, an arts and craft fair will be included in the festivities. The fair is open on Friday, Dec. 2 from 4 to 7:00 p.m. and on Saturday, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Vendor booths will be located throughout City Hall.

The tree lighting and holiday celebration includes tree decorating and lighting, children's crafts, and holiday music featuring the Lakes High School Choir and Mann Middle School's Royal Blue Choir.

At 4:30 p.m. on Friday, Lakewood's holiday tree will be lit and refreshments will be served. Santa arrives at 4:45 p.m. on a Lakewood Fire Department fire truck and will visit with youngsters from 5 to 7 p.m. in City Hall.

Portions of the event are held outdoors; participants are encouraged to plan and dress accordingly. Participants are also encouraged to bring donations of non-perishable food items for the Lakewood Youth Council food drive.

The events are sponsored by the City of Lakewood and made possible by donations from many local businesses and volunteers. For more information on the tree lighting and holiday celebration, call Sara Millbauer at 589-2489.

ATHLETICS & RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

Adult Kickball

City of Lakewood is combining with University Place Parks and Recreation Department to offer Adult Kickball. This league will begin April 10. Games will be played at Lakewood and University Place neighborhood parks on Mondays and/or Wednesdays. Each team is guaranteed seven games plus single-elimination tournament play. The cost per team is \$240. The minimum team size is 12. Registration deadline is March 22. For more information, please call Sara Millbauer at 589-2489.

Hoop Shoot and Hot Spot Competitions

Lakewood Parks and Recreation will host FREE Hoop Shoot and Hot Spot basketball skills competitions for youth ages 6-14. In the Hoop Shoot, children will shoot standard free throws. In Hot Spot, competitors will race the clock as they attempt to make a shot from each "hot spot" around the key. Winners in each age category will advance to regional/state competitions. The local competition will be held Saturday, February 4 from 10am-2pm. For more information, please call Sara Millbauer at 589-2489.



Youth Baseball and Softball

Lakewood Parks and Recreation will be offering youth baseball and softball leagues for boys and girls in Spring, 2006. Registration will begin in late January. For more info, call Sara Millbauer at (253) 589-2489 or visit us on the web at www.cityoflakewood.us.

Tillicum After School Program

The Parks & Recreation Department is partnering with Tillicum Elementary School and Communities in Schools to provide a comprehensive academic and recreational after school program this fall. The program is offered Monday through Thursday from 2:30 – 4:45 p.m. and an afternoon snack is provided. Math and reading improvement are the areas of focus for the academic portion and general fitness combined with educational opportunities is emphasized in the recreational portion. Students are selected for participation by school staff and registration is required through the school's main office. Please contact the school for more information, 583-5370.

Woodbrook Late Nite Program

This popular program is a great way to spend a Friday evening. The gym doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the fun begins! The program features open gym, arts & crafts, board games and other activities for **Woodbrook students only**. A snack is provided mid-way through the evening and the program ends at 9:00 p.m. Registration forms are available in the main office of the school. This program is made possible by a federal Weed & Seed grant and partnerships with the Clover Park School District and the City of Lakewood Parks & Recreation Department. Please contact the school for more information, 583-5460.

NOW HIRING: KICKBALL, SOFTBALL & BASEBALL UMPIRES

Lakewood Parks and Recreation is now accepting applications for youth and adult umpires. For more information or to apply, call Sara Millbauer, Recreation Coordinator, 983-7827.

POLICE REPORT

ARE YOU PREPARED?

Are you and your family prepared for a disaster?

Recent events have caused us all to look more closely at how well we are prepared to handle an emergency or disaster. Emergency Management experts tell us we all need to be prepared to be on our own for the first 72 hours after a disaster. You shouldn't expect to receive assistance from government agencies during the first 72 hours, because during that time officials are working to address the most serious and life threatening incidents and it is unlikely they will be able to provide much assistance in individual neighborhoods.

So what can you do to be prepared for the worst?

Make a family communications plan that includes an evacuation plan that coordinates with your school, work and community communication plans. Practice this plan with your entire family.

Build a disaster supply kit that includes enough supplies for each family member for three days (don't forget your pets). Remember to check your kit every six months. There are six basics you should stock for your home in the case of an emergency: water, food, first aid supplies, clothing and bedding, tools and emergency supplies, and special items for medical conditions. Keep the items that you would most likely need during an evacuation in an easy-to carry container. For more information on creating a plan and building a kit, visit www.redcross.org.

You can also become a member of PC-NET (Pierce County Neighborhood Emergency Team). PC-NET is a neighborhood-oriented approach to emergency preparedness and homeland security. It is based on the belief that a cooperative effort between government and its citizens is the only sure way to protect a neighborhood and to prepare for a major disaster. If individuals and their neighborhoods are prepared to mutually assist each other, lives can be saved, property can be spared, and emergency services can be freed to respond to the most devastated areas. This will be accomplished by organizing block groups into a variety of disaster response teams, each of which has a simple one-page list that clearly outlines necessary tasks. No special skills or equipment are required to participate – and only a minimal time commitment is needed. To find out more contact Barbara Nelson at the Pierce County Department of Emergency Management, 798-2168.

The Lakewood Police are looking for volunteers to work in many different areas. If you are interested, contact the Department at 830-5000 for an application. Volunteers are subject to a background check.

The following is a checklist from the Pierce County Department of Emergency Management of things you can do to be prepared:

- Purchase a NOAA 'All Hazards' Radio for emergency alerts.
- Post emergency telephone numbers by phones (fire, police, ambulance, etc.).
- Teach children how and when to call 9-1-1.
- Show each family member how and when to turn off the utilities (water, gas, and electricity).
- Get training for each family member on how to use the fire extinguisher (ABC type), and show them where it's kept.
- Install smoke detectors on each level of your home, especially near bedrooms.
- Stock emergency supplies and assemble a Disaster Supplies Kit.
- Take a first aid and CPR class.
- Determine the best escape routes from your home. Find two ways out of each room.
- Find the safe places in your home for each type of disaster and learn shelter-in-place procedures.
- Practice and Maintain Your Plan.
- Quiz your kids every six months or so.
- Conduct fire and emergency evacuations.
- Replace stored water and stored food every six months.
- Test and recharge your fire extinguisher(s) according to manufacturer's instructions.
- Test your smoke detectors monthly and change the batteries at least once a year.

Disaster can strike at any time so it is best to be prepared now!

LAKEWOOD'S COMMITMENT TO FIGHTING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic violence impacts everyone and Lakewood is serious about combating domestic violence. October was Domestic Violence Awareness Month and in recognition Lakewood lit the tree in front of City Hall with purple lights all month long. Additionally, during the first week of October, Lakewood hosted a Domestic Violence Healing Field. Three hundred twenty-one American Flags were on display next to City Hall to commemorate the 321 victims who lost their lives to domestic violence since 1997 in our State - 13 of those victims from Lakewood. The Healing Field was intended to draw attention to this tragic crime and remember those victims.

In the last year and a half, four women in Lakewood

LAKEWOOD POLICE STATION

The Lakewood Police Department main operations are located at the Lakewood Police Station at 5504 112th Street SW (this is the building formerly known as the Lakewood Police Precinct). Lakewood citizens wishing to visit the Police Department in person should go to the Lakewood Police Station.

..... have lost their lives due to domestic violence. In all four cases the Police had no prior indication of any criminal behavior; but, in all four cases, friends, family, or neighbors suspected something was wrong. Lakewood urges those who suspect someone that they know is the victim of domestic violence to call the Domestic Violence Helpline, 798-4166 or 800-764-2420, for help and advice. Your call can be anonymous. When you call the helpline you will find:

- Someone who can help you decide how to safely help your friend or relative.
- Information about local resources, including shelters, support groups, legal help and housing assistance.

It is up to our entire community to stop domestic violence.

PROTECT YOURSELF - TIPS FOR STAYING SAFE

A great resource for learning how to protect yourself from becoming the victim of a crime is the Lakewood Police Department's Crime Free Residential Catalog. This comprehensive guide covers:

- protecting your home from burglary;
- special tips for senior citizens;
- avoiding mail and identity theft;
- protecting your car;
- personal safety;
- important phone numbers;
- when to call 911; and much more.

For a free copy of the Crime Free Residential Catalog, contact the Police Department at 830-5000 or download a copy from the Police section of the City's website, www.cityoflakewood.us.



The Domestic Violence Healing Field was located next to City Hall October 3 - 5. It was a joint effort of the Business Masters Exchange Club and the Lakewood Partnership Against Domestic Violence.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

LAKEWOOD SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER

Watch for our grand opening in February 2006

The City of Lakewood has taken over operation of the Lakewood Senior Activity Center. Although we don't move into our new home at the Lakewood Community Center until early next year, we are still providing fun and exciting programs and activities in the Clover Park Technical College facility.

Want to join our Red Hat Society

Divas, exercise with Elizabeth, join a walking club or head to the 5th Avenue Theater in Seattle for a day of live performances? There is something special here for you!

Computer Buddies is a new program coming this fall. We will be partnering with Lakewood Computer Clubhouse and teaming up kids from their SuperTeen program with Older Adults to teach computer skills for e-mailing their grandchildren and making greeting cards to more advanced skills like restoring old photos. There are only a hand full of inter-generational computer programs in the country so this is an incredible opportunity.

To find out more about what is happening at the Lakewood Senior Activity Center call Elizabeth Scheid at 589-5735.

LICENSE RENEWAL TIME

It is that time of year again. All business owners and pet owners must renew their City licenses.

Business Licenses: In December, renewal notices will be sent out to all licensed businesses in Lakewood. When you receive the form, please review the information, update and make changes as needed, and fill in any missing information. Then return the form to City Hall with a check for the appropriate amount. All renewals are due by February 28. After that date, late fees will apply. For more information, please call 512-2261.

Animal Licenses:

Lakewood requires all dogs and cats over the age of eight weeks to be licensed. All licenses expire on December 31 and must be renewed by February 28 each year. Renewal notices will be sent out during the first week in January. For more information, please call 589-2489.



DEVELOPMENT CONTINUES IN LAKEWOOD

Lakewood has continued to see a steady level of building activity throughout the community. Here are some of the recent and ongoing development projects:

- Wal-Mart, 7001 Bridgeport Way SW: Construction of a 223,000 square foot retail store in two phases.
- Lakewood Corporate Center (Panattoni Development Company), 3423 112th Street SW: Construction of a 273,000 square foot warehouse and distribution center in two phases.
- La Quinta Inn, 11747 Pacific Hwy SW: Construction of a 120 unit, 70,837 square foot hotel.
- Edgewater Retail Project, 8813 Edgewater Drive SW: Construction of a 3,500 square foot multi-tenant retail center.
- Ponders Collision Center, 12408/12424 Pacific Hwy SW: Expansion of the existing business including addition of a 11,400 square feet facility.
- Steilacoom Office Building, 8524 Steilacoom Boulevard SW: Construction of a 29,800 square

Support the Lakewood Senior Activity Center by taking a trip to the 5th Avenue Theatre in Seattle.

Upcoming shows include "Sweeney Todd", "The Sound of Music" and "Wonderful Town". Tickets can be purchased just for the show or for the show and transportation. Call 589-5735 for more information.

within 20 days of the application date. For more information, please contact the Community Development Department at 512-2261.

LAKEWOOD LOOKS AT REGULATIONS FOR RESIDENTIALLY BASED BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

The City's Planning Advisory Board is in the process of establishing a task force to take a closer look at the regulations for residentially based personal care businesses (adult family homes, and other in-home care facilities) and home occupation business activities (any home based business). The purpose of this task force is to review regulations pertaining to these businesses, develop a best practices manual for these operations, create an information tool kit to inform citizens about the nature of business activities occurring in their neighborhoods and identify potential changes to regulations governing businesses operating in residential areas.

The task force will work on these projects over the course of the coming year. If you are interested in serving on the task force or finding out more about it, contact the Community Development Department at 512-2261.



The new Starbucks under construction at the Towne Center should be open in December.

foot commercial office building with a 1,082 square foot drive through coffee shop.

- Lakewood Sound Transit Station, 11424 Pacific Hwy SW: Construction of a 600+ stall parking structure and transit center.
- Lakewood Towne Center: A new Starbucks, Panera Bread and office building have all been proposed for the Towne Center area and are in various stages of the development process.

The City has issued 963 permits through August of this year with a valuation of about \$40 million. Fifty-one percent of these permits were issued the same day and another twenty-four percent were issued

LAKEWOOD FIRE DISTRICT HOSTS SAFE SITTER TRAINING

Safe Sitter is a medically accurate program that teaches boys and girls ages 11 - 13 how to handle emergencies when caring for young children.

Lakewood Fire District will offer a Safe Sitter course at Lakewood Fire Station 2-1, 5000 Steilacoom Blvd. SW, on December 27, 28 and 29 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Participants must attend all three days. The cost is \$20. The deadline to register is December 23. Call Hallie McCurdy at 983-4573 for more information or to register.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

- Every Thursday Lakewood United Forum, Burs Restaurant, 7:00 a.m., 584-1867
- Every Thursday City Talk, Lakewood City Hall, 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., 589-2489
- County Talk, Lakewood City Hall, 9:00 a.m. - noon, 798-3308

DECEMBER

- Every Thursday Lakewood United Forum, Burs Restaurant, 7:00 a.m., 584-1867
- Every Thursday City Talk, Lakewood City Hall, 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., 589-2489
- County Talk, Lakewood City Hall, 9:00 a.m. - noon, 798-3308
- Friday 2 10th Annual Holiday Tree Lighting Celebration, Lakewood City Hall, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m., 589-2489
- Monday 5 Keep Lakewood Beautiful, Cynthia's Cafe, 7:00 a.m.
- Thursday 8 Lakewood Chamber Membership Luncheon, 582-9400
- Lakewood Sister Cities Association, Lakewood City Hall, 5:30 p.m., 589-2489
- Friday 9 Coffee with the Mayor, St. Clare Hospital Resource Center, 7:30 a.m., 589-2489
- Saturday 10 Lakewood Youth Basketball Skills Clinic, preregistration required, 589-2489
- Wednesday 14 Community Collaboration, Lakewood City Hall, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., 589-2489

JANUARY

- Every Thursday Lakewood United Forum, Burs Restaurant, 7:00 a.m., 584-1867
- Every Thursday City Talk, Lakewood City Hall, 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., 589-2489
- County Talk, Lakewood City Hall, 9:00 a.m. - noon, 798-3308
- Thursday 5 Lakewood Chamber Membership Luncheon, 582-9400
- Lakewood Sister Cities Association, Lakewood City Hall, 5:30 p.m., 589-2489
- Monday 9 Keep Lakewood Beautiful, Cynthia's Cafe, 7:00 a.m.
- Friday 13 Coffee with the Mayor, St. Clare Hospital Resource Center, 7:30 a.m., 589-2489
- Wednesday 11 Community Collaboration, Lakewood City Hall, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., 589-2489

Saturday 14

3rd Annual Lakewood Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Observance, Clover Park High School Performing Arts Center, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

FEBRUARY

- Every Thursday Lakewood United Forum, Burs Restaurant, 7:00 a.m., 584-1867
- Every Thursday City Talk, Lakewood City Hall, 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., 589-2489
- County Talk, Lakewood City Hall, 9:00 a.m. - noon, 798-3308
- Thursday 2 Lakewood Chamber Membership Luncheon, 582-9400
- Saturday 4 Hoop Shoot & Hot Shots Competition, 589-2489
- Monday 6 Keep Lakewood Beautiful, Cynthia's Cafe, 7:00 a.m.
- Wednesday 8 Community Collaboration, Lakewood City Hall, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., 589-2489
- Thursday 9 Lakewood Sister Cities Association, Lakewood City Hall, 5:30 p.m., 589-2489
- Friday 10 Coffee with the Mayor, St. Clare Hospital Resource Center, 7:30 a.m., 589-2489
- Tuesday 21 Lakewood's 10th Anniversary Open House, Lakewood City Hall, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m., 589-2489

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information; however, the City assumes no responsibility for omissions, errors or changes. Please confirm any event with the sponsor. If you have an event that you would like to submit for the Calendar, send the information via fax at 589-3774 or cbock@cityoflakewood.us.



Lakewood's 10th Annual
**Holiday Tree Lighting
and Craft Fair**

Friday and Saturday, December 2nd-3rd
at Lakewood City Hall (6000 Main Street SW)

Free Admission!

FRIDAY (4:00-7:00pm): Visit with Santa, enjoy great music, be a part of the tree lighting, shop at the Craft Fair, and see live REINDEER!

SATURDAY (9:00am-3:00pm): Browse the hand-made crafts and other goods at our first annual Holiday Craft Fair! Enjoy Holiday food and music. Live reindeer will be available for petting and viewing from 9am-noon.

For more info, call 253.589.2489
or visit us on the web at www.cityoflakewood.us

CITY OF LAKEWOOD

- City Hall.....589-2489
- Abandoned Vehicles.....830-5080
- Animal Control Hot Line..983-7800
- Animal Licensing.....512-2269
- Building Inspectors.....512-2261
- Building Permits.....512-2261
- Business Licenses.....512-2261
- City Council.....589-2489
- Code Enforcement.....512-2261
- Community Development
Department.....512-2261
- Economic Development....589-2489
- Finance Department.....512-2269
- Housing Programs.....589-2489
- Information Line
(automated).....512-2264
- Job Line (automated).....512-2265
- Garage Sale Permits.....512-2261
- Municipal Court.....512-2258
- Noise Complaints.....798-4721

- Parks Department.....589-2489
- Potholes.....983-7795
- Police Department
main desk.....830-5000
- non-emergency only.....798-4721
- drug tip hotline.....830-5049
- sex offender info.....830-5049
- Public Works
Department.....983-7795
- Senior Center.....589-5735
- Street Light Outages.....983-7795
- Traffic Infractions.....512-2258
- Zoning.....512-2261

OTHER PHONE NUMBERS

- Burn Ban.....1-800-595-4341
- Cable TV
(Comcast).....1-877-824-2288
- Clover Park
School District.....583-5000
- Domestic Violence Helpline
.....798-4166 or 1-800-764-2420
- Earthquake/Floods.....798-7470
- Electric Companies
Lakeview Light.....584-6060
- Puget Sound
Energy.....1-888-225-5773
- Tacoma Public
Utilities.....383-2471
- Gas Leaks.....1-888-225-5773
- Humane Society.....383-2733
- Lakewood Chamber.....582-9400
- Lakewood Fire District
non-emergency only.....582-4600
- Lakewood Library.....582-6040
- Lakewood Refuse.....588-1705
- Lakewood Water District..588-4423
- Marriage Licenses.....798-7435
- Pierce County Sewer.....565-3440
- Tillicum Library.....588-1014

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The public is welcome at all City Council meetings. Council meetings are held at the Lakewood City Hall, 6000 Main Street SW, unless otherwise publicized.

Regular Council meetings are the first and third Mondays of each month starting at 7:00 p.m. At each regular Council meeting there is a public comment period where you may address the Council on City issues. Council study sessions are the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. For more information on Council meetings, call 512-2264 (recorded message) or visit www.cityoflakewood.us.

CITY TALK

Every Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., the Mayor or another Council member is available to meet one-on-one with Lakewood residents. No appointment is necessary, just drop by City Hall.