



# Hoquiam Happenings

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Editors: Alissa Thurman and Tracy Wood

Newsletter  
Date 7/2009

### Hoquiam is Honored, Historic, and Hip.



I am very pleased that our City was recently honored by Governor Gregoire, the Association of Washington Cities,

the Downtown Revitalization Institute, the Arbor Day Foundation and the National Government Finance Officers Association for our many efforts to make Hometown Hoquiam a wonderful place to live, raise a family, and run a business.

We received the Governor's Smart Communities Award for having a "Smart Vision" which honored our two year Comprehensive Land Use Plan process led by our volunteer Planning Commission. The remodeled train station of which we are all so proud received two honors: the award for "Outstanding Achievement in Design" by the Downtown Revitalization Institute and the "Municipal Excellence Award for Economic Development" from the Association of Washington Cities. The latter award acknowledged that the train

station is a "two-fer": it preserves a historic structure and also benefits our economy by bringing over 2500 people per month to our business district to visit the Department of Licensing office located there. The leadership of our Urban Forestry Advisory Board helped us earn the Tree City USA award which recognizes outstanding achievements in protecting, managing and increasing our urban canopy.

Finally, our world-class finance director -- Mike Folkers -- received the "Distinguished Budget Presentation Award" from the Finance Officers' Association for our two year budget. The process was very inclusive of staff, elected official and community input and the finished document is understandable and complete. Moreover, we are budgeting and, as a result, thinking 2-years at a time rather than one year. It is available for viewing on our web site at [www.cityofhoquiam.com/finance](http://www.cityofhoquiam.com/finance).

Regarding being "hip", we have broadened our communications by having City of Hoquiam Facebook

([www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)) and Twitter ([www.twitter.com/hoquiam](http://www.twitter.com/hoquiam)) sites. I am particularly excited about the Twitter capability to notify a broad number of people of any kind of emergency situation or good news - - like a notification that we will get the pontoon project! We continue to deliver on our Hometown Hoquiam vision to make Hoquiam a more livable community. Our community policing, our economic development efforts to grow our business community and jobs, our continued focus on events and festivals, our neighborhood revitalization and abatement efforts, and our work on new sidewalks and planting trees is done not only by City of Hoquiam staff but also with the assistance of dozens and dozens of citizen volunteers.

As always, I welcome your ideas and suggestions. Join the team and help make your hometown an even more honored community!! My email is: [mayor@cityofhoquiam](mailto:mayor@cityofhoquiam) and my cell is 360-580-9856.



Port Angeles Councilmember Kathy Rogers, presenting the Municipal Excellence Award to Councilmember Paul McMillan, City Planner Alissa Thurman, City Administrator Brian Shay, Councilmember Darrin Moir and Mayor Jack Durney at the recent AWC Conference

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## Water Use Efficiency Initiative

In 2008, the City of Hoquiam and all other municipal water systems were required to establish goals to comply with the Water Use Efficiency Rules of the Washington State Health Department. This rule was part of the 2003 Municipal Water Supply-Efficiency Act and is intended to help conserve water for both the environment and future generations by requiring municipal water suppliers to use water more efficiently.

To meet our goals, the City of Hoquiam wants to share information on ways homeowners can reduce their water consumption to use water more efficiently and ultimately reduce their water bills. Below are several tips from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the American Water Works Association to help you conserve water both inside and outside of your home. For more great information to preserve our most precious

resource, please visit <http://epa.gov/watersense/tips/index.htm>

- Install water-efficient fixtures and appliances such as faucets and showerheads. This can reduce your water usage by 30% per day.
- Don't let the sink run when brushing teeth. On average, you will save more than 5 gallons per day.
- Take shorter showers. A 3-5 minute shower can reduce your consumption by 20 gallons per day.
- Use both sides of the sink to wash dishes. One side to wash and the other to rinse. Don't wash dishes with the water running.
- Garbage disposals use approximately 11.5 gallons per day. Try composting organic wastes.
- Keep a cold water pitcher in the refrigerator. Don't let the water run in the sink until it gets cold.

- Use the dishwasher and washing machine only when you have full loads.
- When cleaning a fish tank, use the drained water on plants. The water is rich in nitrogen and phosphorus, a healthy treat for plants.
- Never pour water down the drain when there may be another use for it such as watering plants.
- Direct downspouts and other runoff toward shrubs, trees, and gardens.
- Use a broom to clean your driveway or sidewalk. Never use a water hose.

### **City Receives \$9,470,000 Loan from Rural Development 7/15/09**

The City of Hoquiam received official notice from the United States Department of Agriculture that we have received a \$9,470,000 loan for the biosolids removal project at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. A copy of their press release can be found at: <http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usdahome>.

With these funds, the City will remove over 30 years of accumulated biosolids to be land applied at an approved facility. Additionally, dikes will be installed so that a portion of the lagoon can be filled with materials from the pontoon construction site or other fill sources. The loan is for 40 years at 2.625% interest.

"This project is number one in our general sewer plan and has been the top priority and concern by our dedicated staff in the sewer department for many years," said City Administrator Brian Shay. "We are all extremely excited about the opportunity to move this project forward rather than continuing to pass on the problem to future generations."

The City anticipates bidding the project within 60 days, with construction completed by the fall of 2010.

## ELTON BENNETT NATURE PARK TRAIL RESTORATION—VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The City of Hoquiam is partnering with Rebuilding Together Grays Harbor to rehabilitate the Elton Bennett Park Trail. A volunteer work party will be held on Saturday, August 1, 2009 beginning at 8:30 am and lasting all day. Broken bridges will be repaired, and damaged sections of the trail will be restored. Elton Bennett Park is located on Grand Avenue, off Lincoln Street/Highway 101 in north Hoquiam.

Volunteers are needed in the following areas: Bridge repairs: Assist construction crews as needed. Carry small, pre-cut lumber to bridges under repair, and remove old lumber for disposal. All that is needed are a sturdy pair of shoes (sneakers are ok) and gloves.

Trail restoration: Restore or realign trail where damaged by fallen timber. This will require grubbing and digging to fix the trail around several root wads. Tools needed include shovels, grubbing hoes, pick axes and rakes. Logs have been cut from the trail.

Other assistance as "runners" to deliver tools, refreshments, etc. to crews along the trail.

Volunteers are asked to contact Dick Brower of Rebuilding Together GH at (360) 532-7100 if they are interested in participating, and please leave a message. Come and spend an enjoyable day outdoors at one of Hoquiam's hidden jewels! Refreshments will be provided!

**The Hoquiam City Council meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 609 8th St. Hoquiam City Hall (second floor)**

**City Hall is open Monday - Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm For customer convenience, drop boxes for payments are located outside the front door of City Hall as well as in the alley behind City Hall**

## VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

Does your property have grass, weeds, blackberry vines or other vegetation that is overgrown? Uncut grass is a habitat for mosquitoes and an invitation for depositing trash. It also gives the appearance that no one cares about the property. If the vegetation is dead, diseased, a fire hazard or taller than eleven inches, it is deemed to be a public nuisance. Overgrown vegetation is also a violation of Hoquiam Municipal Code 3A.10.040.

Hoquiam has and will experience more hot summer days this year. Please help reduce the chance of a fire or creating a public nuisance by trimming and mowing overgrown grass and weeds on a regular schedule. Help maintain Hometown Hoquiam's "Friendliest City" appearance.

## TWO NEW COUNCILMEMBERS APPOINTED

The Hoquiam City Council has appointed Bill Nelson Jr. and Allen Daniels to fill two vacant seats on the City Council. Both of the new Council members are running unopposed in the upcoming fall elections for Ward 3 seats that recently became vacant due to the resignations of Rick Haugen and Carla Streiffel. Mr. Daniels is a detention officer with the county Juvenile Detention Center. Mr. Nelson is a corrections officer at Stafford Creek prison. For more information about both new members or the entire City Council, visit the Council Webpage at <http://www.cityofhoquiam.com/council/>.

Ballots will be mailed by the County Auditor on October 16<sup>th</sup> for the November 3<sup>rd</sup> General Election.

**Annual Bluegrass Festival**—August 14-16, 2009  
Olympic Stadium—\$8.00 for Adults; Children under 12 free  
**4th Annual On Track Art Festival**—August 22-23, 2009  
8th & Levee—Downtown Hoquiam  
**Loggers Playday**—September 12, 2009  
Downtown Hoquiam  
For info email [twood@cityofhoquiam.com](mailto:twood@cityofhoquiam.com)

**Summer Parks Program:** The City, in conjunction with the AmeriCorps members, are again sponsoring a summer program of activities for children. The program runs through August 19th and is held at Pocklington/Central Playfield. Hours are 11:00 to 2:30 Monday through Friday with crafts, games, and other fun. We just completed the Annual Watermelon Olympics and had over 70 kids who were awarded their certificates for completion of these great games!

Working in conjunction with the Hoquiam School District the program provides a free summer lunch to those 18 and under through the Federal Summer Feeding Program. The wading pool is open on GOOD weather days from 12:00 to 2:30 p.m.



## Hoquiam Police CRIME WATCH



Going on vacation this summer? Our CRIME WATCH volunteers offer free residence or business vacation checks while you're gone! Come into the police station to fill out a Vacation Check Form and head out on vacation with peace of mind that our volunteers will be checking on your place while you are gone! **HPD 215 10th Street**

## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

On Tuesday, August 4, 2009, starting at 6 PM, neighborhoods throughout Hoquiam will join forces with thousands of communities nationwide for the "26<sup>th</sup> Annual National Night Out" against crime. National Night Out, sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch and co-sponsored locally by the Hoquiam Police Department and other local law enforcement agencies, involves over 15,000 communities from all 50 states, US territories, Canadian cities and military bases. Last year, over 37 million people participated in National Night Out 2008!

National Night Out provides an opportunity for all community members to get to know one another and build strong networks of communication

about what's happening in the neighborhood.

Last year, neighborhoods throughout Hoquiam hosted several block parties, some of which included BBQ's, fun contests and youth activities. Public Officials, Police Officers, CRIME WATCH volunteers and Firefighters from Hoquiam dropped in to visit and talk about important crime prevention and general safety tips.

National Night Out is designed to (1) heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; (2) generate support for, and participation in local anti-crime efforts; (3) strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and (4) send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Our CRIME WATCH members will also make the rounds this year to provide this information as well as other free crime prevention programs offered by the department.

If you want to close your street or utilize a City Park for a party during National Night Out, please contact Tracy Wood at the City of Hoquiam Community Services Department at 360-532-5700 x 240. Signs and barricades will be made available for this special event at no cost.

If you have any questions regarding this event, call Tracy Wood at 532-5700 x 240 or Chief Jeff Myers at 532-0892 x 105.



**The City of Hoquiam  
Welcomes the  
Grays Harbor Bearcats to**



The City of Hoquiam is honored to welcome the Grays Harbor Bearcats to Olympic Stadium. The Bearcats are a semi-pro football team from the North American Football League. The NAFL is a self sustaining level of adult football that allows players to develop their skills or simply participate for the love of the game.

Stepping onto the Olympic Stadium turf for the first time on July 11th, the Bearcats gave the 2000 fans in attendance something to cheer about with a 36 to 14 victory over the Washington Cavaliers. If you missed the Bearcats in their first home game, you still have

plenty of opportunity to support them! The home games start at 6:00 p.m. at Olympic Stadium. Admittance to the game is only \$5.00 and this money will go back into the local youth sports leagues.

Concessions are also being run by the local youth teams and all proceeds from those sales also go directly back to the youth programs.

Show your support to the Bearcats and your love of football!

**GRAYS HARBOR  
BEARCAT SCHEDULE  
FOR 2009 SEASON**

July 25, 2009 Away Game  
Southern Oregon Renegades

**August 1, 2009 HOME Game**  
Cottage Grove Gryphons

**August 8, 2009 HOME Game**  
Portland Raiders

**August 22, 2009 HOME Game**  
Langley Longhorns

Sept. 12, 2009 Away Game  
Cottage Grove Gryphons

**Sept. 19, 2009 HOME Game**  
Southern Oregon Renegades

**Sept. 26, 2009 HOME Game**  
East County Blackshirts

For festival info email  
twood@cityofhoquiam.com

**BLUEGRASS  
FESTIVAL  
8/14-17/09**

Featuring Bands:  
Pearly Blue, Deadwood  
Revival, Black River,  
Mission Mtn. Trio and  
New Railroad!  
Tickets are \$8.00 for age  
12 and up per show.  
Children under 12 free!

**4th Annual On Track  
Art Festival  
8/22-23/09**

Visit over 50 artists on  
8th & Levee Sign up at  
the festival for  
workshops with  
the artists!

**7th Street Theatre**  
Back to the Future II and  
a special visit by the  
DeLorean Club  
8/21/09 7:00 pm

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