

# CITY CURRENTS



VOLUME 10 NO. 4

AUGUST 1999



Wooton Park overlooks Puget Sound in Redondo.

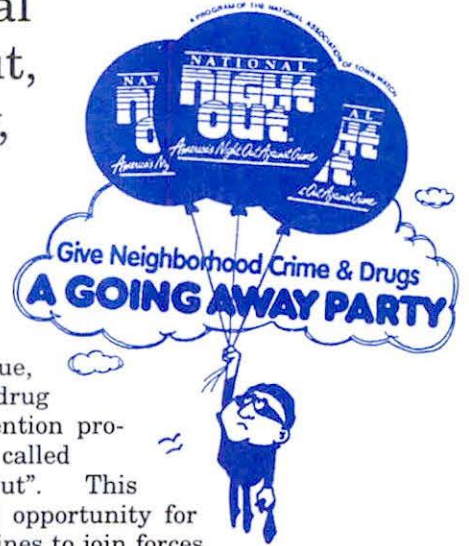
## Wooton Park Gets Generous Donation of Trees and Plants

If you haven't had a chance to visit Wooton Park recently, take a stroll in Redondo and look at all the beautiful new trees, rhododendrons and azaleas recently planted throughout the park. A big "thank you" to Rick and Char Williams of PBC who are building new homes in Redondo for their donation of trees and plants valued at more than \$30,000. "Thanks" also to Gene White for his coordination of this effort with Mr. Williams and Jim and Ty Harden of Big Trees.

The trees and plants were all carefully dug and moved to Wooton Park over a three-day period with skilled effort from the staff at Big Trees. Volunteers Doug Christensen, Gene and Susan White worked five days planting the new landscaping. Doug and Sharon Andrews of Andrews Equipment provided a bobcat and Bob McChan Trucking brought up 200 yards of dirt to complete the project. All Des Moines residents are invited to visit Wooton Park on Tuesday, August 3 at 7 p.m. for a concert in the park featuring The Eagle Creek Band, National Night Out and to applaud the volunteers that have contributed to the development of Wooton Park. The park is truly an emerald in the Des Moines park system.

## National Night Out, Tuesday, Aug. 3

The National Association of Town Watch is sponsoring a unique, nationwide crime, drug and violence prevention program on August 3 called "National Night Out". This event provides the opportunity for the City of Des Moines to join forces with thousands of other communities across the country in promoting cooperative, police-community crime prevention efforts.



Neighbors throughout Des Moines play a vital role in assisting the Des Moines Police Department through joint crime, drug and violence prevention efforts. By supporting National Night Out residents are taking a stand to give crime and drugs in their neighborhood a going away party.

Therefore, the City calls upon all citizens of Des Moines to take a stand and celebrate the 16th Annual National Night Out from 7 - 10 p.m. on Tuesday, August 3. Citizens can host a block party in their neighborhood or if they prefer, show their support by turning outside lights on for safety. For more information on National Night Out or other crime prevention programs call the Des Moines Police Community Service Unit at (206) 878-3301.

A kickoff party will be held on Monday, August 2 (the day before National Night Out) at Midway Neighborhood Park, 5 - 7 p.m.

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**DES MOINES DIRECTORY**

City Hall, 21630 11th Ave. S.  
206-878-4595

Business Hours: Monday - Friday  
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**City Council - 206-878-4595**

Scott Thomasson, Mayor  
Terry Brazil, Mayor Pro Tem  
Dave Kaplan  
Bob Sheckler  
Dan Sherman  
Gary Towe  
Don Wasson

**City Offices**

City Attorney .....206-870-6553  
City Clerk .....206-878-4595  
City Manager .....206-870-6541  
Comm. Development .206-870-7576  
Engineering .....206-870-6522  
Finance Director ....206-870-6512  
Marina .....206-824-5700  
Municipal Court ....206-878-4597  
Parks .....206-870-6556  
Police Department . .206-878-3301  
Public Works .....206-870-6559  
Recreation .....206-870-6527  
Senior Services .....206-878-1642

**Other Numbers**

Emergency .....911  
Fire (non-emergency) .206-878-2210  
Police (non-emergency) 206-878-3301  
Animal Control .....206-870-6549  
Field House .....206-870-6527  
Library .....206-824-6066  
Marina .....206-824-5700  
City Job Line .....206-870-6593

**City of Des Moines Web Site**  
www.ci.des-moines.wa.us

## Nibble of Des Moines Arts and Crafts Fair

The first annual Nibble of Des Moines Arts and Crafts Fair is now accepting applications for the juried show to be held September 11 & 12, 1999 at the Des Moines Marina in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce Nibble of Des Moines.

For an application please call Sue Padden, Des Moines Park & Recreation at (206) 878-1642.

## Initiative to Lower Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Would Impact City Services

Supporters of I-695 may have submitted enough signatures to qualify for the ballot this November. If passed, this measure would lower the annual Motor Vehicle Excise Tax (MVET) to a flat \$30.00 annually. This initiative would also subject all future tax and fee increases to voter approval. The restriction would apply to all taxes, business licenses, park fees, animal licenses, utility charges, and any monetary charge by government. College tuition and civil and criminal fines would be exempted.

Currently, MVET is paid by owners of motor vehicles, trailers, and semi-trailers at about 2.2% of vehicle value. The Department of Licensing collects this fee and distributes revenues to state and local governments. In fiscal year 1998 this amounted to about \$760 million. The funds are used for:

- General city government
- State general government
- State transportation
- Local transportation
- Mass transit
- Referendum 49 highway projects
- City and county police
- City and county criminal justice
- State ferries
- County public health
- Rail development

Prior to enactment of the MVET, vehicles were subject to the property tax. In 1937, the property tax on vehicles was repealed and the MVET implemented. Cities were compensated for the loss of property tax revenue by receiving MVET distributions. In 1998 voters approved Referendum 49

to finance a state wide transportation improvement program, which also included a \$30 annual reduction in MVET per vehicle. Des Moines, and other cities, now receive MVET for police, roads, parks, and criminal justice assistance. For 1999 the City of Des Moines will receive:

<b>MVET Funded</b>	
Sales Tax Equalization	\$1,666,888
General MVET	\$354,144
Special Criminal Justice	\$49,102
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,070,134</b>

Des Moines' 1999 operating budget for police, parks, streets, senior services and all other general operations is \$10.8 million. The loss of MVET revenues could require a 20% reduction in city services unless other revenue sources were found. City services affected would include parks, recreation, senior services, building permits, street maintenance, human services, and even police services. Almost 50% (\$4,917,936) of the City's operating budget is for law enforcement. The City operates all general, police, parks and street services with 120 employee positions.

City Manager Bob Olander noted, "Voters have the absolute right to decide on this initiative, but they do need to make an informed decision based on the impacts on state, county, health district, transportation, and city services."

For more information, call the City of Des Moines Finance Director, Scott McCarty, at (206) 870-6512.

## Applications Accepted for Police Citizens Academy

The City of Des Moines Police Department is currently accepting applications from Des Moines citizens who would like to attend the 1999 Citizens Academy.

The Academy will start in September and run for approximately three months. Most classes will be held on Wednesday nights, a few on Thursday nights, 6:30 - 9 p.m., and a couple of Saturdays 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Participants will learn from the Police Department about homicide investigations, DUI, and DARE. They will also learn about their City government, marina, public works department, and senior center.

Applications are available at the Des Moines Police Department. For information, contact Sgt. Steve Wieland at (206) 870-7607.



# PIER 2 PIER CHALLENGE

## REDONDO TO DES MOINES

### SEPTEMBER 11, 1999

### 9:00 am Start

### Are you TOUGH enough for the CHALLENGE?

The course is challenging! The first 3/4 mile climbs from sea level to over 300 feet with outstanding views of Puget Sound and the Olympic Mountains. At the top of "the hill" you can stop at the water/aid station to freshen up or keep running. As you're striding along you'll enjoy several winding, tree-lined streets offering lots of shade, oh yeah, and hills. Don't fret, up ahead is a 3-mile slight decline with another water/aid station.

The finish line brings you back to sea level and to the fresh smell of food being prepared for the Nibble of Des Moines and the sounds of Jazz music. You can relax, drink, eat, and be merry. We'll present much deserved awards to top place finishers and then have buses return you to Redondo.



### EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- 5.4 miles, challenging & scenic
- 2 water/aid stations
- 12 age divisions, male & female
- Awards 3 deep/division
- Random drawing of great prizes
- Jazz music at finish line
- Return transportation to Redondo

Note: Please no walkers, dogs, strollers, rollerskates, inline skates, or skateboards

### RACE INFO: (206) 870-6527

You may register online at [www.activeusa.com](http://www.activeusa.com)

### 1999 PIER 2 PIER ENTRY FORM

Mail completed & signed entry form and appropriate fees to:  
City of Des Moines, c/o Pier 2 Pier Challenge, 1000 S. 220th St., Des Moines, WA 98198

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ M / F \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I assume all risks and hazards of the conduct of this program. In case of emergency, I waive all claims or legal action, financial or otherwise, against the City of Des Moines, it's organizers, sponsors, supervisors, employees, or any volunteers connected with the program, unless injury is caused by the sole negligence of the City of Des Moines. In absence of signature, payment fees and participation in the program constitutes acceptance of these conditions. I grant full permission to use photographs, videotapes, motion pictures, recordings or any other record of this program for any purpose.

Signature (Parent/Guardian signature required if participant is under 18) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRY FEE:		
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$10 through August 25 <small>Mail-in entries must be <b>postmarked</b> by August 25</small>	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$12 between August 26 - September 10 <small>Mail-in entries must be <b>received</b> by August 25</small>	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$15 Race Day Registration, September 11 <small>Shirts available while quantities last</small>	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Race Shirt; \$10.86/shirt (includes tax) <small>Shirts ordered at time of registration are guaranteed</small>	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 XL shirt size; add \$2/shirt	\$ _____
<b>Total:</b>		\$ _____

#### Method of Payment

Cash       Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Visa       Mastercard

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle Shirt Size	
Youth Sizes:	Large
Adult Sizes:	Small    Medium    Large    XL
Adult 2XL available for additional \$2	2XL



## Salmon Recovery and Pesticide Use

Salmon are as synonymous with the Northwest as the towering forests of evergreens and the ubiquitous rain. Today, however, several species of salmon have been listed as in danger of extinction. They have been overfished and their habitat has become destroyed by surrounding development. One way to help in the recovery of salmon is by ensuring their habitat has plenty of clean water. You can help keep their water clean by looking at how you use pesticides in your garden and how you dispose of the excess.

To better understand the effect those pesticides have on salmon, here are some findings that were reported in the May 1999 issue of *Flashpoint*, a King County publication (the findings were originally reported in *Journal of Pesticide Reform*).

Actual fish kills from pesticide contamination are relatively infrequent. However, there is evidence that salmon are affected by sub-lethal concentrations. Laboratory studies have documented several behavioral effects from pesticides, which include:

- Increased stress in juvenile salmonids, making them more susceptible to predators;
- Altered swimming ability, which can reduce the ability to feed, avoid predators, and defend territories;



- Interrupted schooling behavior, critical for avoiding predation during salmon migration;
- Changes in migration patterns to avoid polluted areas, which delays spawning;
- Impaired ability to transition from freshwater to sea water; and
- Disruption of the immune system of salmon.

People should always use caution when applying pesticides, herbicides, fungicides and fertilizers to their gardens. Today with salmon in danger of extinction, there is added reason to think twice about the use of these chemicals. If you must use these products, think about the timing of your application. Don't apply them on a windy or breezy day. Apply them during a time when no rain is expected. Don't use them near streams, creeks or other moving water. Mix up only the amount of pesticide you will need and use it up on the plant materials. Don't pour the excess into the sewer or storm drain. Dispose of excess chemicals safely through the King County Household Hazardous Wastemobile (for information of schedules call (206) 296-4692).

## What To Do With Explosive Devices?

You're cleaning the garage and find an old can of black powder your grandfather used when he made his own handgun reloads. A footlocker located in the attic is found to contain souvenirs from a family member's military service, including an apparently unexploded artillery shell, an intact hand grenade, or other military ordinance. What do you do with this stuff?

The first thing to do is call 911 and have an officer come to your home and assess the danger of the situation. Often, these devices become unstable

the longer they sit undisturbed.

Recently good intending citizens have transported unexploded ordinance to the police station, which caused interruption in police services due to personnel evacuations. **DO NOT** transport the devices to a police station or fire station! The volatile nature of explosives can make this very hazardous. A bump or jolt could be enough to detonate the devices. Leave the devices in place and call 911. An officer will arrive, assess the situation, and take necessary actions.

**PARK DEDICATION:** North Hill Water Tower Park, located at S. 208th Street between 5th and 6th Avenue So., will be dedicated on Thursday, Oct. 7, 6 p.m. The park is located on property owned by Highline Water District 75. Please join the Des Moines City Council and Highline Water District Commissioners as we celebrate the opening of this new park.

### SENIOR CENTER

#### Be a Part of the Senior Center Directory

On August 23 - 26, United Directories will take pictures of Des Moines Senior Center participants. Each participant will receive a free 8x10 portrait and will be featured in the Senior Center directory. Copies of directories are free to participants who have their photo taken. Photos may be taken as individuals, couples and with or without pets. These photos would make great Christmas presents for family members and will be available in time for the holiday season. Photos will be taken between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Appointments are scheduled every 15-30 minutes. Contact Mariah at (206) 878-1642 for more information, to schedule an appointment or to volunteer to help.

#### GRANDPARENTS DAY

Before the grandkids or great-grandkids start another school year, a special day is being set aside to bring them to the Senior Center to introduce to friends and staff. Enjoy a picnic lunch and Harley's Horns-A-Plenty, a five piece band leaving fans of all ages wanting more. This will be held in Beach Park at noon, Tuesday, August 10. Call to reserve sack lunches (206) 878-1642.

#### Corrections Workers Clearing Bushes in Parks

Department of Corrections community service program workers started a five-week maintenance contract in July with the City of Des Moines Park and Recreation Department to clear overgrown blackberry bushes and other growth from many Des Moines parks and trails.

Projects sites included Sonju Park (currently undeveloped), and City/Kiddie and Parkside Parks. With the help of the Department of Corrections labor force, these long awaited and much needed projects have been completed to improve park safety, security and aesthetics.



## DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL



Scott Thomasson  
Mayor



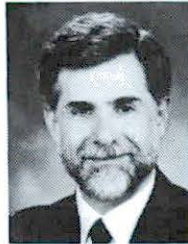
Terry Brazil  
Mayor Pro Tem



Dave Kaplan  
Council member



Robert Sheckler  
Council member



Dan Sherman  
Council member



Gary Towe  
Council member



Don Wasson  
Council member

### CITY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

*Approved the following resolutions:*

- No. 862 expressing condolences to students, faculty, parents and residents of Littleton, CO.
- No. 864 rejecting the Lakehaven Comprehensive Water System Plan Update.
- No. 865 denying the application for 1997 Comp Plan amendment by Wescot for a proposed dirt conveyor belt.
- No. 866 approving an Airport Defense Fund Interfund loan from the Revenue Stabilization Fund as authorized in 1997.
- No. 867 establishing a moratorium on new construction in the Pacific Ridge area.
- No. 868 recognizing the

City's 40th anniversary on June 17.

*Approved the following ordinances:*

- No. 1235 adopting single family zoning map amendments.
- No. 1236 civil violation process and penalties.
- No. 1237 adopting multi-family/commercial zoning map amendments.
- No. 1238 adopting 1998 amendments to the Comprehensive Plan.

*Approved the following agreements/bids/contracts:*

- Construction of 31st Ave. S. and S. 219th Street sidewalks Project to Tydico Inc. for \$42,618 plus 10% contingency.
- Professional engineer-

ing design and right-of-way services for the Pacific Highway South project to CH2M Hill for \$1,299,500, plus 10% contingency.

- Confirmed Mayor's appointments of John Carroll and George Hadley to unexpired terms on the Senior Services Advisory Committee.
- Held a Public Hearing to approve the Year 2000 Community Development Block Grant Program allocations.
- Reconsidered and approved Sea-Tac Disposal's requested rate increase to be retroactive to April 1, 1999.

### FREE OUTDOOR CONCERTS



**THE EAGLE CREEK BAND**  
Tues., Aug. 3 7 p.m.  
Wooton Park (Redondo)  
*Country & western, old rock 'n roll.*

**PAMELA COOK & RIGHT AS RAIN**  
Wed., Aug. 4 7 p.m.  
Des Moines Beach Park  
*Pop, rock, country, folk and blues.*

**HARLEY'S HORNS-A-PLENTY**  
Tues., Aug. 10 noon  
Des Moines Beach Park  
*Five-piece band spotlights the "Golden Age" of Big Bands.*

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**August 5**

City Council Public Hearing –  
Zoning Code Amendments:  
Lot Area Per Dwelling Unit

City Council Public Hearing –  
CDBG Applications and  
Recommendations

**Sept. 9**

City Council Review of  
Preliminary 2000 Budget

**Sept. 11-12**

Nibble of Des Moines and  
Arts and Crafts Fair, Des  
Moines Marina

**CITY OF DES MOINES**

21630 11th Avenue South  
Des Moines, WA 98198

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