## Des Moines

# CITY CURRENTS



VOLUME 13 NO. 5 SEPTEMBER 2002

## City Celebrates Construction of Steven J. Underwood Memorial Park

he City of Des Moines, the Des Moines Police Guild, Des Moines Legacy Foundation and Starbucks Coffee Company celebrated the start of construction of Steven J. Underwood Memorial Park at a groundbreaking ceremony held July 11. The Underwood Memorial Park is named in honor of fallen Des Moines Master Police Officer Steven J. Underwood, killed in the line of duty near the park site on March 7, 2001.

The inspiration for the Underwood Memorial Park came from the citizens of Des Moines who were looking to create a safe place for youths and adults to play. Officer Underwood's wife, Rosathe; son, Esteban; and the officer's parents participated in the groundbreaking.

Following the groundbreaking, Starbucks presented the Des Moines Legacy Foundation with a \$10,000 grant from its fourth round of Neighborhood Park Grants.

The Des Moines Legacy Foundation assisted the City by leading a fund-raising campaign to help build a park plaza in honor of Officer Underwood. The foundation contributed \$20,000 to kick off the project and applied to Starbucks for its Neighborhood Parks Grants. The grants are designed to support grassroots volunteer efforts to improve neighborhood parks.

The Des Moines Police Guild and Des Moines Firefighters Guild sponsored a golf tournament in honor of Officer Underwood, the proceeds from which will provide funds for a memorial at the plaza. Citizen volunteers and the aforementioned groups plan to build the plaza in October of this year.

The park is made possible with funds and grants secured from Washington State Interagency Committee for Outdoor



Esteban Underwood, son of slain police officer Steven Underwood, breaks ground.

Recreation and King County Parks Department; South Highline American and National Little Leagues; Des Moines Midway Soccer Club; G3 Holdings LLC; and the City of Des Moines. The park's first phase, which includes two softball fields

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County Plans to Close Pool

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## Des Moines Remembers. . .

### Citizens Invited to Attend Ceremony September 11

On Wednesday, September 11, 2002, all City flags will be at half mast as the City of Des Moines honors the many lives lost last year at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and in Pennsylvania.

The day will be marked with a ceremony that will begin at 8:30 a.m. at City Hall including a proclamation and remarks by City dignitaries followed by a minute of silence and a lighting of candles at 8:46 a.m. At 11:45 a.m., Senior Services will

host a memorial luncheon at the Masonic Lodge (2208 South 223rd Street). At noon, there will be a minute of silence in honor and memory of those who died, followed by Mayor Wasson leading the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A special memorial wreath provided by Fire District 26 will be displayed at the flagpole at Des Moines Memorial Park (Marine View Drive South and Des Moines Memorial Drive).

#### 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

Don Wasson, Mayor Richard Benjamin, Mayor Pro Tem Gary Petersen Bob Sheckler Maggie Steenrod Scott Thomasson Susan White

#### City Offices

City Attorney206-870-6553
City Clerk
City Manager
Comm. Development206-870-7576
Engineering206-870-6522
Finance Director 206-870-6512
Marina
Municipal Court
Parks
Police Department 206-878-3301
Public Works
Recreation
Senior Services 206-878-1642

#### Other Numbers

Other Numbers
Emergency
Fire (non-emergency)206-878-2210
Police (non-emergency) 206-878-3301
Animal Control
Field House206-870-6527
Des Moines Library 206-824-6066
Woodmont Library 253-839-0121
Marina
City Job Line206-870-6593
City Information Line 206-870-7585

Website: www.ci.des-moines.wa.us

#### Neighborhood Watch

Neighborhood Watch has long been an effective way of reducing crime in our neighborhoods. To keep a Neighborhood Watch program vital, members hold annual meetings, communicate with other members through fliers or newsletters, and keep a current list of neighbors' names and telephone numbers. If you are interested in organizing a Neighborhood Watch in your community contact CSO Tonya Seaberry at 206-870-7619.

## Why Do People Need Building Permits?

permit is an approval to undertake a construction project, which can be as small as a backyard deck repair or as large as a new high rise building. This "license to build" is required by state and local laws.

The concept behind building codes is simple: What a person may construct on their own property does have an impact on the surrounding properties and the future use of the property when it is sold. A potential worst case example is that of the Great Fire of London in 1666 or the Chicago Fire in 1871. In these two events, a fire in a combustible structure built close to adjacent buildings quickly spread throughout an entire community. These tragedies and many others like them drive the standards for building construction. If certain safety precautions are taken, many situations like these can be avoided. Modern building codes helped prevent the loss of life during the 2001 Nisqually earthquake.

The purpose of a building permit is to allow trained professionals an opportunity to inspect building projects to ensure that they meet various life safety requirements. These requirements represent a set of building standards that regulate the building environment in an effort to provide a reasonable level of safety for people and the protection of the surrounding community.

One of the benefits of obtaining a building permit is that it increases your property's value. Your home or business is an investment. If your construction project does not comply with the codes adopted by your community, the value of your investment will be reduced. In case of a catastrophic event, property insurers may not



cover work done without permits and inspections.

In a perfect world, contractors would build only safe and sanitary buildings. Contractors in general are aware of the need for building permits. Your permit also allows the code official to protect the public and your investment. Having the City staff review and inspect a construction project is a great benefit by reducing the potential hazards of unsafe construction and ensuring public health, safety and welfare.

By having a neutral party take a critical look at the safety aspects of construction projects, you can be assured to get the value expected from your building project. By following code guidelines, the completed project will meet minimum standards of safety and will be less likely to cause injury to you, your family, or future owners.

The old adage of an ounce of prevention being worth a pound of cure applies. Please call the Building Department if you have questions on whether you need a Building Permit. The staff of the Building Division is here to assist you in the permit process. They specialize in the building code requirements and are available to you by phone at (206) 878-7576 or in person at the Community Development Department, Monday through Friday, 8 – 4:30.

## Underwood Park Groundbreaking. . .

Continued from page 1

and parking, is scheduled to be dedicated on March 7, 2003, and open for play later in the summer. Future park development includes two soccer fields, a third softball field, field lighting, restrooms and concession area, play equipment, picnic areas, and walking trails connecting to the Community Center. Construction of future phases will occur as funds are available.

The City is encouraging community members to contribute time and/or funds to help build Steven J. Underwood Memorial Park. Further information can be found by calling the Des Moines Park and Recreation Department at 206-870-6527.

## Special Recycling Collection Event

Saturday, October 26, 2002, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Des Moines Marina

#### **Items Must Meet the Following Guidelines**

**TIRES:** Bias ply, steel belted, and studded tires accepted. Limit 6 tires per household (18 inches and below) free of charge. No oversized tires accepted. No tires on rims.



CARDBOARD: Please flatten. No wax coated cardboard.

**HOUSEHOLD GOODS and CLOTHING:** Clothing, furniture, and miscellaneous household items in good condition. Mattresses and items in need of repair will not be accepted.

**PORCELAIN TOILETS and SINKS:** Toilet seats, hardware, and base wax rings must be removed. \$5 charge (cash only).

LEAD ACID BATTERIES: Car, truck, marine, and motorcycle batteries accepted.

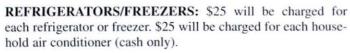


**PROPANE TANKS**: Residential tanks only. \$5 charge (cash only).

BULKY YARD WASTE AND SCRAP WOOD: Includes tree branches (minimum 6 inches in diameter), clean wood, plywood, pallets, and other untreated and unpainted wood. No leaves, grass, small branches, sod, or brush. Please lay a tarp under material for ease of removal.

MOTOR OIL, FILTERS, & ANTIFREEZE: Motor oil, oil filters, antifreeze, brake fluid, transmission fluid, 2-cycle oil, steering fluid, crankcase oil, kerosene, and home heating fuel. Do not mix with antifreeze, solvents, gasoline, or other substances.

APPLIANCES and SCRAP METAL: Auto parts, lawn chairs, lawn mowers, stoves, barbecues, iron, steel, aluminum, brass, copper and other ferrous and nonferrous metals. \$5 will be charged for each water heater that still has insulation coating (cash only). Metals that are insulated, rubber or oil coated, previously or currently contain chemicals, paint, or hazardous materials will not be accepted. Light fixture ballasts, television sets, and sealed drums will not be accepted.





NOTE: ALL USER FEES WILL BE CASH ONLY



**CONCRETE, ASPHALT, ROCK, and BRICK:** Residential material only. No wood or metal attached. Please lay material on top of a tarp for ease of removal.

**ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT:** Computers, printers, mouse, keyboards, fax machines, cellular phones, and scanners. Computer monitors will be collected for \$10 each.

## Not Accepted



NO PAINT\*

NO PESTICIDES\*

NO SOLVENTS & THINNERS\*

NO HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS\*

NO CLEANING PRODUCTS\*

NO WINDOW GLASS

NO GARBAGE

NO YARD DEBRIS

NO TELEVISIONS

NO MATTRESSES

NO SCRAPWOOD

NO PLASTIC TOYS, HOSES, etc.

\* These household hazardous wastes can be disposed of through the King County Hazardous Wastemobile.

## HAZARDOUS WASTES

The household hazardous wastes listed above are accepted at the Hazardous Wastemobile.

The Wastemobile will be at the Burien Fred Meyer, 14300 1st Ave. S., on Sept. 20 -22, and Sept. 27 - 29.

It will be at the Des Moines Marina one day, Nov. 9.

Wastemobile hours are: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



#### PARKS AND RECREATION

#### Before And After-School Programs

Quality before and after school child care is available for Kindergarten-6th grade children attending Des Moines, Parkside, and Woodmont Elementary Schools. Your children will have a blast with exciting games, creative activities, arts and crafts, and yummy snacks! Plus time is set aside each afternoon for homework! Limited scholarships are available for those in need. Please contact Des Moines Park & Recreation for more information at (206) 870-6527.

#### Youth Basketball League

Boys and girls Kindergarten-12th grade are invited to play in the Des Moines Park & Recreation Department's Youth Basketball league this fall and winter! Registration will begin Monday, October 14. The cost is \$65 per player. There will be a \$10 discount for registering prior to October 21. For more information, please call Des Moines Park & Recreation at (206) 870-6527.

#### Fall Fiesta Dance Party

School is back in session and the Park & Recreation Department, along with the Des Moines Youth Council, will be putting on an event for the teenagers in the community! This dance is for students grades 7-9 from the South King County area. Come enjoy snacks, do a little dancing, and meet other teens from local schools. The dance will be held Friday, September 27, 7:30-11 p.m. at the Des Moines Field House Gym, 1000 South 220th Street. Cost is \$5 per person. For more information call (206) 870-6527.



#### Halloween Carnival

Carnival style games, candy, and prizes for everyone! There will be a costume contest and a magic show! Bring the whole family, wear your costumes and get ready to have a ton of fun! The carnival will be held at the Field House Gym, 1000 South 220th St., October 31st 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more information, please contact Des Moines Park & Recreation at (206) 870-6527.

#### DES MOINES POLICE DEPARTMENT

#### Back to School Checklist for Parents

- Be sure your child knows his/her name, home phone number and address. It is also a good idea to make sure your child knows your work number and the number of a trusted adult plus how to use 9-1-1.
- Plan a route to school or the bus stop with your child. Emphasize the importance of walking with a sibling or friend.
- When carpooling remember to deliver or pick children up as close to the school as possible, and never leave until the child has entered the building.

- Teach your child not to talk to strangers or accept rides or gifts from strangers.
- If your child is home alone after school, set up rules for locking doors and windows, answering the door and telephone and what activities are allowed.
- Make sure they check in with you or a trusted adult immediately after school.
- Agree on rules for having friends over and for going to a friend's house when no adult is home.
- Take time to carefully listen to your child's fears and feelings about people or places that scare them or make them feel uneasy. Teach your child to trust their instincts.

#### Pets Get Lonely When Kids Return to School

When the kids leave for school, your pets will suddenly be without their summer playmates! To help alleviate problems that may re-



sult, make sure that they receive extra doses of love, attention and playtime from other family members.

Provide pets with an array of toys and chewies to help keep them occupied.

Double check doors and gate locks, to make sure they don't try to break out of their yard and show up at the schoolyard!

For pet license and other information, call (206) 878-3301.



## McGruff, Toons



#### A Suit of Armor Is Not the Way To Protect Your Children

✓ Teach your child how to call 9-1-1 or "O" and when it is appropriate to do so

✓ Model good problem-solving skills

✓ Show your child the safest route to and from school including places to go for help



## Senior Programs To Relocate

he Senior Center Dining Hall was home to many senior services and programs until November 2001 when the building was severely damaged by flooding in Des Moines Beach Park. The dining hall was closed until a complete engineering assessment was made regarding building safety. The assessment showed that the building needs extensive repairs to the foundation and structure to make the building safe. The minimum preliminary estimated cost needed for foundation repairs is \$400,000. The City hopes to investigate historical preservation dollars through the state and federal government to repair the dining hall. Other buildings within Des Moines Beach Park that survived flooding continue to be utilized for recreation programs, community rentals and office space.

The Des Moines City Council recently approved the funds to renovate a cityowned building (formerly a Baptist Church), now called the Des Moines Activity Center for the relocation of senior center programs and services. The Activity Center is located at 2045 S. 216th Street (just east of the Des Moines Post Office) within Steven J. Underwood Memorial Park. The site will be a temporary home for Senior Center services and programs until a decision is made regarding the development of a new facility or restoration of existing facilities located in Des Moines Beach Park.

2002 Capital Improvement Plan funds in the amount of \$205,000 are being real-located to pay for the Activity Center renovations. The City Council Municipal Facilities Committee recommended the Activity Center as the logical choice for a relocation for senior programs based on three months of detailed research and analysis. The Activity Center proved to be

the most cost effective solution to accommodate current senior programs. Renovation will include improvements to the parking area, a commercial kitchen for the senior nutrition program, building code safety requirements, some flooring and painting.

Activities to be housed at the Activity Center include the senior center nutrition program, the Meals on Wheels program, staff and volunteer offices, health enhancement services, many of the senior center classes and recreation activities for all ages.

The Parks, Recreation, and Senior Services Department is looking for businesses and individuals who may have labor and materials to donate for the Activity Center renovation. If you would like to help please contact Sue Padden, Senior Services Manager, 206-878-1642. For more information on either the Dining Hall or the Activity Center renovation please call, 206-878-1642.

#### Spaghetti Bash & Bake Sale October 11

It's time to mark your calendar for Des Moines Senior Center's 2nd annual Spaghetti Bash and Bake Sale hosted by Athens Pizza and Pasta! This tasty event will be held Friday, October 11 from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Pacific Middle School's Cafeteria. Enjoy a delicious meal of spaghetti, salad, garlic bread and beverage. For your dessert, just walk across the room to the Bake Sale coordinated and hosted by senior center volunteers. There'll be treats as good as grandma bakes, because they ARE baked by grandmas!

Cost? YOU decide! This is a donation at the door fund-raiser for our "under renovation" activity center located at 2045 S. 216th St. Your support will help us build the rooms we need at our new location for our senior programs and services.

RSVP's will begin September 9. Join us – the more the merrier! Can't make the event but you'd like to help us with our renovation? We have donation envelopes available for your donation. Just call us and we will be sure to send you one.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

Other generous supporting sponsors for this event are B & E Meats, Taco Time, Circo Circo Restaurant, Plush Pippin Pies, and Red Robin in Des Moines.

For more details please call Des Moines Senior Center, 206-878-1642.

#### Des Moines Legacy Foundation Bayside Brunch November 3

The Des Moines Legacy Foundation has been hard at work planning their third annual Bayside Champagne Brunch and Auction. Hosted by Anthony's HomePort in Des Moines, the date for this year's fundraising event is Sunday, November 3, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. All proceeds from the brunch, silent and live auctions support the programs, services and facilities of Des Moines Parks, Recreation and Senior Services. Cost is \$50 per person.

Through historic photographs of Des Moines and a historical brunch theme, The Legacy Foundation will showcase the importance of parks, recreation and senior services throughout the history of our community.

For your reservation for this year's Bayside Brunch, please call 206-870-6485.



#### DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Approved the following agreements/bids/contracts:

- Employment Agreement with Tony Piasecki as City Manager.
- Utility Easements through Steven J. Underwood Memorial Park.
- Interlocal with Yakima County for the housing of inmates in the Yakima County Jail.
- Repairs to the Public Fishing Pier to Global Diving and Salvage in and amount of \$20,120.
- Steven J. Underwood Memorial Park Phase One Part B construction services with Specialized Landscaping Inc. in the amount of \$254,115, plus tax & 10% contingency and Phase One Part A construction services to Specialized Landscaping Inc. in the amount of \$675,000 plus tax, and 10% contingency.
- Omnibus Legal and Financial Agree-

ment for a Regional Disaster Plan. Approved the following ordinances:

■ No. 1303 authorizing acquisition of property by Eminent Domain for the Pacific Highway South Project.

Approved the following resolutions:

- No. 928 creating an Ad Hoc Parks, Recreation & Senior Services Master Plan Citizens Advisory Committee.
- No. 929 authorizing the 2002 Waterland Festival.
- No. 930 adopting a 6 Year Transportation Improvement Plan for years 2003-2008.
- No. 931 creating a new Council Standing Committee, "Finance & Economic Development."
- Confirmed appointment of Councilmember Sheckler as the City's voting representative to the Suburban Cities Association.

- Received a briefing on Highline Community College's Strategic Plan.
- Approved various real estate and personal property purchases for the Pacific Highway South Project.
- Reviewed and discussed a 5 Year Operating Model and provided Budget policy direction.
- Approved the 2003 Community Development Block Grant Program allocations.
- Adopted the City's Vision and Mission Statement and Strategic Objectives for 2002-2003.
- Remanded the issues of licensing of overnight lodgings and creation of a graffiti ordinance to the Council's Public Safety and Transportation Committee for review.
- Directed staff to prepare an ordinance revising DMMC 14.48 (Mobile Home Parks).

## King County Making Plans to Close Mt. Rainier Pool

King County is proposing to mothball Mt. Rainier Pool located at Mt. Rainier High School in Des Moines at the end of 2002 if another governmental entity does not step up to take the pool.

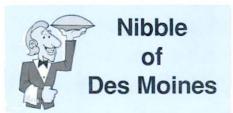
The City of Des Moines, City of Normandy Park, Highline School District, Highline Community College and King County officials and staff have met to discuss options for keeping Mt. Rainier Pool open. Due to financial constraints affecting each of the local entities, it does not look feasible that Mt. Rainier Pool could remain open without financial participation from numerous sources.

The Des Moines City Council approved a motion at their August 1, 2002, meeting to form an ad-hoc committee to study the

issue of maintaining the pool.

There was a show of strong support from pool users from Des Moines, Normandy Park, SeaTac and Kent wishing to keep the pool open, however, there is no joint funding plan in place to do so at this time.

Mt. Rainier Pool is utilized by people from a number of areas and registration data provided by King County shows that only 50% of registrants and 44% of groups renting the pool reside in the City of Des Moines. Other areas showing significant numbers are Seattle, Kent, SeaTac, Normandy Park and Burien. Highline School District and swim clubs are also among the major pool users.



September 28 & 29 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Des Moines Marina

Call the Des Moines Chamber of Commerce at (206) 878-7000 for more information.

#### CITY OF DES MOINES

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