



DES MOINES



CITY **CURRENTS**

SPRING 2016

OUR ENVIRONMENT

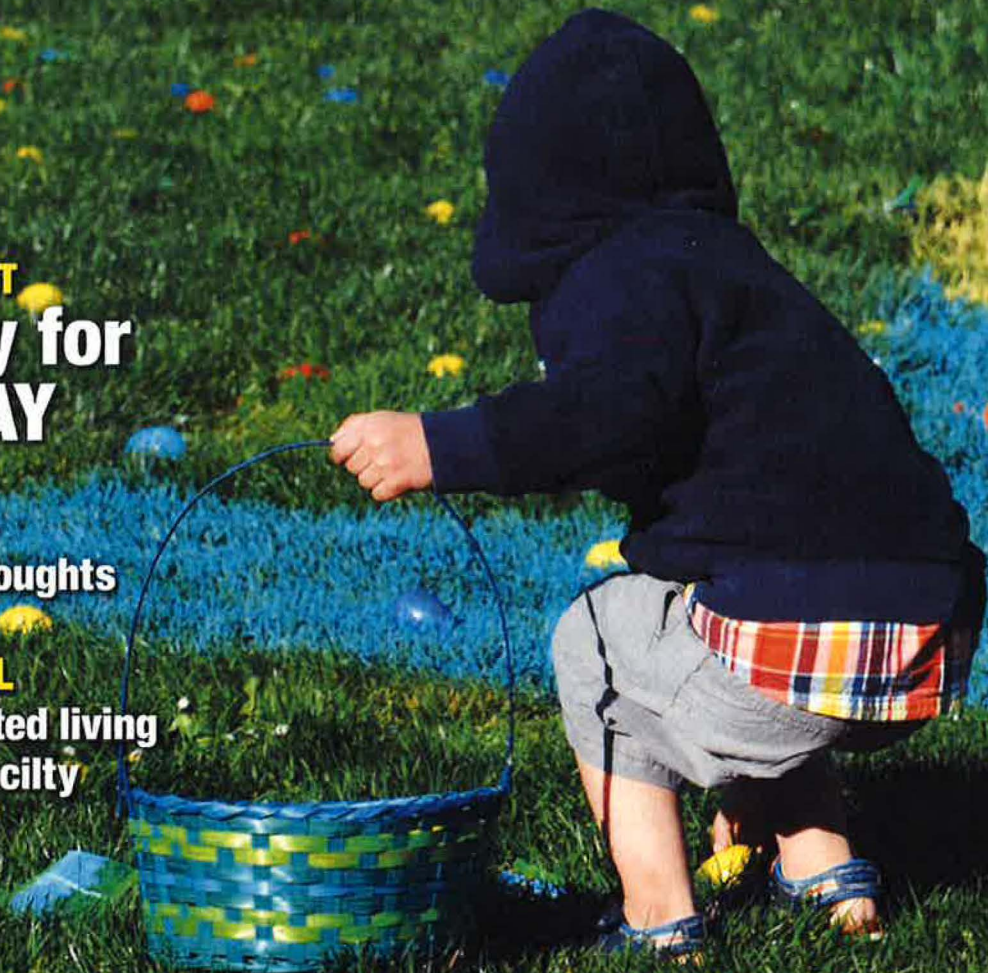
**Get Ready for
EARTH DAY**

FROM THE BENCH

Judge Leone's thoughts

COMING THIS FALL

**\$23 million assisted living
and retirement facility**



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From the Council



AS YOUR INCOMING MAYOR, I AM APPRECIATIVE AND HUMBLLED by your support. I also know that the Council, with our diverse and useful skills,

is listening and remains committed to maintaining the lifestyle that we have all come to know and love in this great City. This is important, especially as the City moves forward to develop and set the path for a sustainable future. It is a pleasure to work and serve with each of my fellow Councilmembers.

The future of the City of Des Moines is very bright. It's just going to take a little time, and it's not necessarily going to be easy as we work to get there. But I know that, with the community's help and collaboration, we will get there. In the meantime, we need to listen respectfully, share ideas, and be good to each other.

Looking forward into 2016, the Council's focus will continue to be on the

city's finances, economic development and public safety. These are critical components in maintaining the future of Des Moines, and they are priorities your Council is completely committed to.

At this time, we have more economic development projects under way or consideration than we have ever had in the history of this City. That's the kind of news we need, and is an indicator of the interest in doing business in Des Moines. However, between today and the time that those projects are actually completed, come online and start to generate revenues, we will still have the challenge of paying for all the services that we currently receive. There is a gap in time between when the facilities are built, businesses are up and running, and a predictable flow of tax receipts come to the City. It is this gap we're struggling to address.

Thank you to all the citizens who have provided input to help us understand all the issues around the impacts that some of our very difficult decisions could create. We remain committed, we are listening and we are doing the absolute best we can.

Looking forward to a fabulous 2016!

Sincerely,
Matt Pina, *Mayor and Councilmember*

2016 Spring

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CITY OF DES MOINES 2016 BUDGET

ON DECEMBER 17, 2015, the Des Moines City Council adopted the 2016 budget. In 2014, the State Auditor issued a finding during its review of the City for 2013, stating concern over the City's financial state and our ability to provide basic services into the future. The Auditor strongly recommended that the City adopt a financial plan. Consequently, the City developed a five year plan to address the cumulative effects of numerous financial challenges such as variable development revenues, reductions in state shared revenues, decreases in assessed property values, and increases in overall operating costs. As part of the process to develop the 2016 budget, the City Council and staff worked together to put this plan together. The budget for 2016 reflects this plan in that it cuts costs—both on a one-time and on-going basis—and raises revenues—including increases to business

license fees, park and recreation fees, and utility taxes on solid waste collection and surface water utility fees. These revenues are necessary to help to replenish the City's General Fund reserves to a minimally acceptable level, begin reversing the past trends, and return the City to a sustainable financial future. At the same time, the City Council is committed to providing additional police service to the citizens. Accordingly, one Patrol Officer position has been added with a start date of October 1, 2016. In addition, 1.75 FTE positions (1 FTE Code Enforcement, .5 FTE Court Clerk, .25 FTE Sr. Services) have been eliminated. Finally, the 2016 budget calls for 12 unpaid furlough days for all non-police union employees. With the exception of police operations, before and after school programs, and summer youth camps, City operations will be closed the first Friday of each month beginning March 4th. The Marina will be closed on the first Wednesday of each month rather than the first Friday.

While the budget is balanced for

2016, the state of the reserve balances and prospects for 2017 and beyond are concerning. Without significant cuts in expenses, or substantial new revenues, our reserves will continue to shrink and the City will no longer be able to provide services at current levels. While the City has been very aggressive with economic development processes, we are just now seeing the fruits of our labors. Those developments which are either under construction now or look to be under construction within the next year will bring in new revenues. This new revenue has been conservatively estimated and built into our budget forecasts through 2020 but it is not enough to get us to a financially sustainable budget in the next few years.

More detailed information on the 2016 Budget and the financial projections for 2017 through 2020, is available on the City's website: www.desmoineswa.gov. The 2016 budget document can be accessed directly via the following link: <http://www.desmoineswa.gov/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/1097>.

Council Highlights

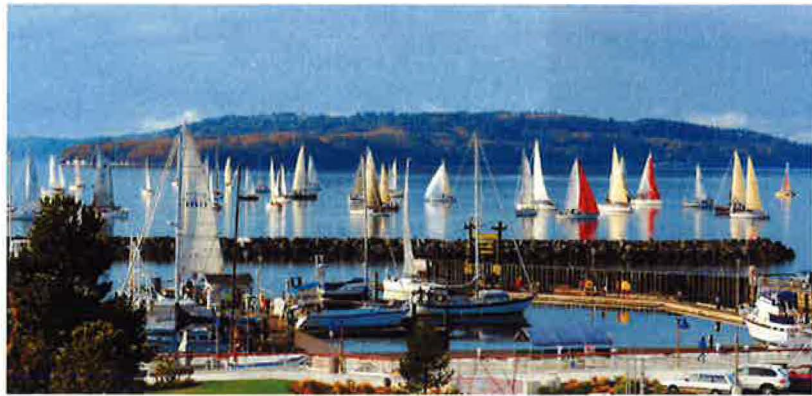
CITY CURRENTS City Council Highlights from December-February Ordinance 1630-1642 Resolution 1314-1324

Held Public Hearings:

- Replacement of Surface Water Management Flush Truck
- Assumption of Transportation Benefit District, Ordinance 1634
- Year 2016 General Property Tax Levies
- 2016 Operating & Capital Budgets
- Combined Public Hearing: Draft Ordinance Vacating DMCBP Tract E Right of Way and Draft Resolution Amending the DMCBP Master Plan and Approving the 2nd Addendum to the Amended and Restated Second Development Agreement for the Des Moines Creek Business Park, Ordinance 1641
- Public Notice Requirements for Essential Public Facilities

Approved the Following Action:

- Parks and Right of Way Landscape Maintenance Contract with Northwest Landscape Services
- Jury Pool Services MOU
- Setting the limit factors for property tax levy for 2016, Resolution 1314
- Solid Waste Utility Tax Increase, Ordinance 1630
- Cable or Wire Service Utility Tax Increase, Ordinance 1631
- Property Tax Valuation, Ordinance 1632
- Increase in regular property tax levy for the year 2016, Ordinance 1633
- Municipal Court Seal, Ordinance 1635
- Updated City of Des Moines Right-of-Way Acquisition Procedures
- Surplus City Vehicle – SWM 2004 Camel Flush Truck, Resolution 1315
- Interlocal Agreement Between the Cities of SeaTac, Des Moines, Covington and Tukwila for Planning, Funding and Implementation of a Joint Minor Home Repair Program
- Accepted King County Youth Sports Facilities Grant
- 2015 Budget Amendments, Ordinance 1639
- 2016 Operating & Capital Budgets, Ordinance 1640



- Marina Moorage Rates for 2016, Ordinance 1636
- Accepting Findings of Fact that an Emergency Existed, 251st Street Slide, Resolution 1316
- Consultant Contract Amendment: Transportation Project Manager Leonard D. Madsen
- Consultant Contract Amendment: Grant Fredricks
- Mayoral Re-Appointments to the Senior Services Advisory Committee
- One-Time Revenues-Phased in Expenditure Requirements, Ordinance 1637
- Transportation Gateway Project S 216th Street Segment 1-A; Supplement Agreement for Additional ROW Services
- 2016 Intergovernmental Policies and Positions
- 2016 Des Moines Parks, Recreation and Senior Services Master Plan, Resolution 1317
- 2016 City Council Vision, Mission Statement, Goals and Strategic Objectives
- Redondo Boardwalk Repair Project Certification of Full Funding – For TIB Award, Resolution 1318
- Redondo Boardwalk Repair Project Consultant Contract Supplement #2-For Additional Environmental and Design Work
- Ecology 2015-2017 Stormwater Grant Agreement
- Redondo Boardwalk Repair-Acceptance of Washington State Department of Commerce Direct-Appropriations Contract
- Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Des Moines and Teamsters Local 763
- Set Combined Public Hearing Date For: 1) Draft Resolution 15-215 Approving the Second Addendum to the Amended & Restated Second Development Agreement for the Des Moines Creek Business Park; 2) Draft Ordinance 15-216 Vacating Des Moines Creek Business Park Tract E (South 214th Street) Right of Way;

- 3) Draft Ordinance 15-217 Amending the Approved Des Moines Creek Business Park Master Plan, Resolution 1319
- Set Public Hearing Date for Draft Ordinance 15-206 Related to Public Notice Requirements for Essential Public Facilities, Resolution 1320
- Contract with Recreation and Conservation Office for the Des Moines Beach Park Historic Picnic Shelter/ Restrooms Rehabilitation Project
- Added a New Chapter 3.51 DMMC Entitled "Special Revenue Funds", Ordinance 1638 Public Defender's Contract
- 2016-2017 Recycling Program Funding and Professional Services Contract
- Recognized outgoing Human Services Advisory Committee Members
- Human Services Advisory Committee Appointments
- Set a Public Hearing to Consider Amendments to Adult Entertainment Zoning, Resolution 1321

DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL



Matt Pina
Mayor



Vic Pennington
Mayor Pro Tem



Robert K Back
Councilmember



Luisa Bangs
Councilmember



Dave Kaplan
Councilmember



Melissa Musser
Councilmember



Jeremy Nutting
Councilmember

**City Council
meets 1st, 2nd and
4th Thursdays
at 7pm**

- Transportation Gateway Project: Construction Contract Award and Consultant Agreement Supplement for Construction Engineering and Inspection Services for the South 216th Street, Segment 1-A Between 24th Avenue S and SR99
- 2016-2017 On-Call Consultant Agreements for Civil Engineering Services
- 2nd Addendum to the Restated and Amended Second Development Agreement between the City of Des Moines and the Port of Seattle, Resolution 1322
- Professional Services Contract for Recruitment Services
- Arts Commission Appointment
- Mandatory Furloughs, Resolution 1324
- Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Clean Vessel Sewage Disposal Facility Grant
- 2015 School of Distinction Award Proclamation: North Hill Elementary School
- Set Public Hearing for Pacific Ridge Commercial Zone Mixed Use Limitations, Resolution 1323
- Field House Roof Replacement
- Construction Contract Award for Consulting Agreement for Construction Administration and Inspection Services for the Boardwalk Repair Project
- City Manager Separation Agreement
- Professional Services Contract for Conducting an Executive Recruitment for City Manager Position
- Re-Organization of Title 3 DMMC, Ordinance 1642

Other Action Taken:

- Held Council Vision and Mission Statement and Goals/Budget Retreat in November.
- Audit Exit Conference
- Study Session with Educational Communities
- Selection of Mayor
- Selection of Mayor Pro Tem
- Local Government 101 Presentations: Part 1 The Council-Manager Form of Government; Part 2-Open Public Meetings Act & Public Records; Part 3 the Art of Economic Development
- Presentation by Panattoni/GSA on the Des Moines Creek Business Park
- Briefing by Sound Transit on Federal Way Link Extension
- Telecommunications Audit
- Monthly Financial Report
- Saltwater Bridge Award
- Franchise Agreement Discussion

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City Council Thanks Outgoing Human Services Committee Members

At the Thursday, January 14, 2016 Des Moines City Council meeting, City Council thanked four of the outgoing members of the city's Human Services Advisory Committee. The committee members, Susan Corey, Deana Rader, Nadine Byers and Eileen Severns served two complete terms totaling four years on the committee.

After receiving their certificates of appreciation from Mayor Pina, Councilmember Musser noted that these four committee members were kind, genuine and caring in doing the very best they could to be sure that those less fortunate in our community were receiving important human services. She noted their time, energy, heart, and painstaking decisions for every penny of funding spent on human services in Des Moines. Councilmember Kaplan noted that not only did the committee members go through the arduous process of recommending to City Council the annual Human Services agencies to fund, but also to liaison with each of



the funded agencies; visiting their sites, and monitoring their quarterly reports to ensure that the city is receiving the services promised. Mayor Pro Tem Pennington noted that the four years each of these women served reflected what is special about the Des Moines "caring" community.

At the same City Council meeting Mayor Pina appointed three new human services advisory committee members to serve two year terms. They are Chad Harper, Judi Armer, and Charlotte Edman. There is still one vacancy on the committee.

Des Moines residents interested in serving on the Des Moines Human Services Advisory Committee please call Sue Padden, 206-870-6584 or email Spadden@desmoineswa.gov.

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City Council

Matt Pina, Mayor	MPina@desmoineswa.gov
Vic Pennington Mayor Pro Tem	VPennington@desmoineswa.gov
Luisa Bangs	LBangs@desmoineswa.gov
Robert K Back	RBack@desmoineswa.gov
Dave Kaplan	DKaplan@desmoineswa.gov
Melissa Musser	MMusser@desmoineswa.gov
Jeremy Nutting	JNutting@desmoineswa.gov

City Offices

City Attorney	206-870-6553
City Clerk	206-870-6519
City Manager	206-870-6541
Planning/Building	206-870-7576
Engineering	206-870-6522
Facilities Rentals	206-870-9370
Finance Director	206-870-6532
Marina	206-824-5700
Municipal Court	206-878-4597
Parks Administration	206-870-6527
Police Department	206-878-3301
Public Works/Park Maintenance	206-870-6559
Recreation	206-870-6527
Senior Services	206-878-1642

Other Numbers

Emergency	911
Animal Control	206-870-6549
Field House	206-870-6527
Fire (non-emergency)	253-839-6234
Library, Des Moines	206-824-6066
Library, Woodmont	253-839-0121
Police Dispatch (non-emergency)	206-878-2121

Utilities and Services

Century Link	800-573-1311
CleanScapes	206-762-4900
Comcast	877-778-7008
Highline Water District	206-824-0375
Lakehaven Wtr/Sewer	253-941-1516
Midway Sewer District	206-824-4960
Puget Sound Energy	800-321-4123
SW Suburban Sewer	206-244-9575
Water District #54	206-878-7210

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DES MOINES

**CITY
CURRENTS**

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for the City of Des Moines

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From the Chief



Public Safety in Des Moines I was recently asked by a citizen, what he can do to show support for the police department. I replied by telling him that he help could me more by supporting public safety as a whole. My response confused him at first, but after explaining myself, he came to understand my reasoning. During this exchange, it struck me that this topic is an important discussion for our community as a whole.

The City of Des Moines is in obvious need of more police officers. With one Sergeant and four Officers, a patrol team is considered fully staffed with the resources currently dedicated to the Department. What this definition doesn't take into consideration is when Officers are not out on patrol due to many different reasons. Whether it be vacations, sick leave, training, or injuries, it leaves us with the same dilemma of more often than not running at or below minimum staffing levels. Rather than focus this discussion on the issues that weak staffing levels cause, I will instead focus on what improvements this community could expect with increased manpower in the area of Public Safety.

Funding more police officers in our city requires a careful assessment of the potential impacts in other areas of public safety. Police officers make arrests, issue citations, and submit evidence and charging recommendations for prosecutorial review. Therefore, we must recognize the impact an increase in the number of officers in the community will mean to workload facing our City's court and legal staff. Hence to ensure the justice system is able to flow efficiently, it can be expected that it will require more personnel or technology for courts and the City Attorney's office. While my priority is and will remain to work with our City Manager and City Council to find funding to put more officers on patrol to ensure our community's safety. It should go without saying that failure to ensure adequate staffing for our Court or City Attorney's office will have a negative impact on taking and keeping offenders off the street.

The facts are simple, Police Officers

create work for others when they make an arrest or issue a citation. The way we ensure that the work our officers do will positively impact our community, is by keeping the criminals off the street. The way that happens is by making sure criminal cases are thoroughly investigated and documents are properly prepared to ensure the best chance for successful prosecution. To do this, our Officers need a strong investigative unit, and dedicated support staff.

The Des Moines Public Safety System is made up of three components; The Des Moines Police Department, the Des Moines Municipal Court, and the City Attorney's Office. Support for Police is vital and we're thankful for the wonderful support we receive from the citizens we serve. Support for our public safety system ensures that our community remains safe by holding offenders accountable for their actions.

I want to take this time to sincerely thank you, our citizens for your support. I also want to ask you to support funding for the public safety system as a whole. I invite you to have dialogues with friends, neighbors, and other stakeholders. It's no secret that the city needs more cops, but more cops means more draw on public safety services. We want to make sure the job gets done right the first time, and that the criminal justice system is able to function as intended. Preventing future crime through successful apprehension and prosecution of those who do not wish to follow the laws of a civilized society. Increased public safety in Des Moines will require new funding streams. Whether it's in the form of new taxes such as a levy or a utility tax, discussions have to happen to ensure that public safety services remain effective and reliable.

I've begun discussions with members of our community and our council members. Having community input into how we move forward is very important to me. Our discussions are focused on outside the box ideas for funding a safe future in a way that is both cost effective and reasonable. Ultimately the end result must include an increased level of safety and service for our community. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future. Thank you for your time.

Chief George Delgado

Committed to progress,
Chief George Delgado
gdelgado@desmoineswa.gov



Introducing The Des Moines Police Foundation

The Des Moines Police Foundation, is a 501 (c) 3 Charity Organization, dedicated to supporting the staff of the Des Moines Police Department through grant funding of specialty projects requiring one time money not provided in the City's general fund, Community outreach, Recognition, and Bereavement support for our Officers and their Spouses.

Part of the Community Outreach goal is to raise awareness about the awesome things the Des Moines Police Department does in the Community. One great example was on December 16th, 14 Officers – including Command Staff and 5 Fire Fighters – along with 15 'in need' families (including 34 children) gathered at the Redondo Fred Meyer for the Des Moines Police Foundation's 1st-ever "Shop With a Cop" event.

Families were greeted with breakfast provided by Fred Meyer, Santa and many amazing volunteers. After a brief informational session, the Cops and Fire Fighters were off to shop for their families.

The smiles, giggles and joy were infectious throughout the store!

More recently the Des Moines Police Foundation sponsored the Police Department's Annual Awards Banquet. 50 of the Department's Finest, City Leaders, and Long-Term Volunteers joined together at Anthony's Homeport in Des Moines to recognize several outstanding employees who have risen above the call of duty. Through a significant donation by Delta Air Lines, and silent auction donations from local companies, the Foundation was able to raise \$4,574.91 towards our charitable mission.

To find out more about the Foundation, become a sponsor, or make a donation, please visit www.DesMoinesPoliceFoundation.com. You can also follow us on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/DesMoinesPoliceFoundation.



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Judson Park in Des Moines, Washington, is managed by ABHOW, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation. ABHOW is a nonsectarian corporation, serving seniors through quality retirement housing since 1949. License #BH-681, DHS #797.

COFFEE WITH A COP

March 15th
8:30am – 9:30am

Wesley Homes
Garden Building

March 26th 8:00am-10:00am
Safeway

216th and Pacific Hwy South

April 1st 8:30am – 9:30am
Judson Park Retirement Campus

April 30th 10:00am – 11:00am
Saddlebrook Apartments
2100 S 260th Street

May 21st 8:00am – 10:00am
Des Moines Marina Activity Float

For more information about any of the upcoming events or if you would like to host an event, please contact CSO Tonya Seaberry (206) 870-7619 or tseaberry@desmoineswa.gov.



Good Doggie!

Master Animal Control Officer Jan Magnuson

WHEN YOU TAKE YOUR DOGGIE FOR WALKS, does it feel like he is dragging you, is pulling and gasping and coughing, and you fear you will need rotator cuff surgery by the time the walk is over? Do you call him to come when he is not on a leash, over and over again, and he still doesn't come to you unless he is in the mood? Does he "do his business" on your new carpet, chew your leather couch, and scratch at your carved wood door? If so, we would be HAPPY to help you learn the tools you need to be a kind, confident, calm leader and have a happy, well trained, well-behaved doggie!

Our All-Breed Basic Obedience/Good Manners group classes are for dogs and puppies, four months of age and older, that are healthy and updated on their vaccines. We have mixed-breeds and purebreds, all shapes, sizes, and ages come to class; no dog is ever too old to benefit from this training, we get lots of rescued and adopted dogs that are adults and seniors, and they do great!

We do positive-focused, instinctual-based training; you may use food treats and/or positioning, we will show you both styles plus a combination of the two. I have been a trainer and instructor since 1977 and have learned a lot over the years myself, and am happy to pass that on to my students and their doggies!

We cover all the basics like Sit-Stay, Down-Stay, Stand-Stay, heeling (walking nicely on

leash), recalls (coming when called) plus we discuss good manners like No Bark, No Bite, No Chew, house training, and lots more. We give informational handouts each week, and have a Q and A session too.

Our philosophy about training equipment is that you may use whatever you want as long as it is good quality, humane, and effective. I prefer the Good Dog Collars, 6' Premier nylon leashes, and Biscuit Buddy treat bags, so I will show you those the first class; however, if what you have already fits the above criteria, that is fine with me! (Please note-we do not allow retractable leashes for training.)

We encourage the entire family to join in on the training, including well-behaved children, as it is a fun activity for everyone!

At the final class of the session, we will discuss future training such as more advanced Obedience and Rally Obedience, Canine Good Citizen, Therapy Dog certification, Agility, and more, as I do those activities with my dogs!

Classes are on Thursday nights from 7:15-8:15 p.m. at the Des Moines Field House, 1000 S 220 St, Des Moines, WA 98198. The cost for the full 6-week session is \$100. You can register in person or over the phone at 206-870-6527 (please register early as we do fill up). We would be happy to have you join us! For more information visit our web-site at www.desmoineswa.gov.

We always welcome visitors. If you would like to come watch the current session, feel free to stop by any time we are having class and see us. I would be happy to meet you!

Grand Opening! Check us Out!

Childcare

We offer full time and part time care, as well as drop in, hourly, before/after school care and summer camps.

Enrichment Programs

A variety of classes are available for both children and adults. Class variety may include movement, crafting, dance, music, sports skills, open gym, etc.

Parents Night Out

Twice a month we offer a fun filled evening of movies, games and activities while parents go out and enjoy worry free adult time.

Event Room Rental

1800 sq ft Event Room is available to rent by the hour. Rental includes use of huge projection screen, free Wi-Fi, multi-media system and free parking.

Monthly Events

New events every month to keep everyone entertained!



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Normandy Park Towne Center

[facebook.com/AuntiesPlayhouse](https://www.facebook.com/AuntiesPlayhouse)

www.auntiesplayhouse.com

EARTH DAY Volunteer Events

**Saturday, April 23
9am-12pm**

Beach Park/Des Moines Creek Trail Ivy Removal

Remove ivy and other invasives within the creek buffer to enhance wildlife habitat. Led by Ecologist Laura Hartema and Friends of Des Moines Creek. More information: Janet Best at 206-870-6547 or jbest@desmoineswa.gov. To be added to the list for future volunteer events with Friends of Des Moines Creek, please email LauraHartema@yahoo.com

Sonju Community Garden

Rescue overgrown apple and pear trees, spiff up the gardens for the new growing season, and improve the walking trail - sponsored by the Friends of Sonju Park, led by Kim Richmond. For more information, contact friendsofsonjupark@hotmail.com.

Marina District and South 216th Street Clean Sweep

Litter removal along planting strips and roadways to beautify the City's walkable environment. Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Des Moines and Normandy Park. For more information, contact Dan Johnson at the Print Place 206-878-1380 or go to dan@printplace.net

Volunteer's ages 14 years and older are encouraged to participate. Younger children must be accompanied by an adult. Dress for the weather, wear stable shoes and bring work gloves and your favorite hand tools.

Ball Park Banner Sponsorship Program



The City manages a Banner Sponsorship Program at both Steven J Underwood and the Field House ball parks. Businesses have the opportunity to advertise to thousands of athletes and fans of all ages from April through November for one or three years. Typically, these parks are booked solid from the early spring to the late fall and your business would receive tremendous exposure. For an application call 206-870-6547 or email jbest@desmoineswa.gov.

DES MOINES AND OUR ENVIRONMENT: ASK AN ECOLOGIST From Laura Hartema, Ecologist, King County DNR

Understanding Ivy

WEEDS ON OUR PROPERTY, SUCH AS THE EUROPEAN VINE

*English ivy (*Hedera helix*)—which spreads vegetatively or by berries—negatively impacts our community. Its waxy, evergreen leaves form eye-pleasing, lush carpets across our landscapes, steep slopes and unsightly structures, but it masks other problems.

- It creeps into our natural areas, outcompetes our diverse native groundcovers, shrubs and trees that provide beneficial food and habitat for wildlife.
- Ivy on trees not only harms the health of the tree, the additional weight makes the tree more prone to damage or windfall in storms.
- Ivy mats in residential areas often encourage unwanted pests like the Norway rat to take up residence.
- Because of ivy's shallow roots it is a poor choice for erosion control. Instead plant other native shrubs and trees with deeper, soil-binding roots.
- Drainage issues beneath ivy mats are hidden and may be exacerbated on a hillside because of the heavy weight of ivy on the surface.
- Ivy will eventually damage structures like walls and fences that it covers.



Mature ivy can be as big as your hand. Use a two way saw to cut large ivy stems.



Cut all lower ivy stems. You don't have to remove the ivy above the cut.

Q: How do I get rid of my ivy problem?

A: The good news is, with a little muscle, it can be controlled any time of year.

- All ivy stems on trees should be cut about waist height and pulled away from the base of the tree. Spread out from there. You don't have to remove the ivy mass above where you cut it on the tree. It will die back, turn brown and disappear in time.
- Remove ivy by hand and pile it on cardboard or a tarp until it dries or is dead. It can then go in your compost or left onsite to break down. Be vigilant in your removal, because each live root nodule can resprout.
- Once it is thoroughly removed, install native plants with deep root systems to provide erosion control and diverse habitat.
- Call our local Furney's Nursery or check out Sound Native plants to help you in your native plant species selection: <http://soundnativeplants.com/nursery/species-selection-guide/>

**Considered a widespread, King County Class C Noxious weed. Control is recommended by Washington State rule (WAC16-750).*

On the flip side...

Your Guide to Des Moines Parks, Recreation & Senior Services

Flip the magazine over to check out the **SPRING** schedule.

- Camp KHAOS schedule – Register now!
- Get Out and Have Fun: Outings to gardens, restaurants, performances and travel abroad!
- Sign up your team for softball and basketball leagues!



From the Bench



LAST MAY, I WAS HONORED TO BE APPOINTED your new Des Moines and Normandy Park Municipal Court judge. In the months following my appointment, I've reached

out and become acquainted with many of you, including local business owners, city leaders, educators, attorneys, and first responders. In 2016, I look forward to continuing my outreach efforts and sharing my passion for the work that I do. For those of you I've yet to meet, I wanted to take this opportunity to share a few thoughts on the work and role of a municipal court judge.

By way of background, I graduated from Seattle University School of Law in 1995 and began my legal career working as a public defender in Seattle. It was a challenging and eye-opening experience that prepared me well for my current role. I was first appointed to the bench in 2007, as a Magistrate Judge



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The tendency, of course, is to think of judges as dispassionate arbiters of justice when, in fact, we do best when we “use mind, intellect, and heart to weigh competing interests, analyze the law, decide the facts and search for a just conclusion.”¹

in Seattle Municipal Court. During my eight-year tenure, I presided over thousands of criminal and civil cases - precisely the sorts of cases I will be hearing in your courts. All told, I have over twenty years of experience working in the criminal justice arena.

Practical experience aside, at the very heart of my work as lawyer and as a judge, is a desire to positively impact the lives of those I serve, along with an earnest belief in my capacity to do so. This is (or should be) the aim of public service - working to make our communities better, safer, and more livable for everyone. So, while practical experience is an important qualification to serve as a judge, a demonstrated commitment to public service is certainly as valuable.

Of course, as an independent branch of government, the fundamental role of the judiciary is to preserve the principles of justice and the rule of law. While a true and noble mission, it fails to adequately capture the day to day responsibilities and challenges of our work on the bench. Judges are called upon to fairly and impartially decide the facts and apply the law in each case that comes before them. However, there are many, often competing, interests and challenges that must be weighed in every case. For example, in criminal cases, judges are charged with protecting the victims of crime, as well as the public at large while, at the same time, respecting the presumption of innocence and safe-guarding the rights of the accused. Though we must make tough and sometimes unpopular decisions, the ultimate goal remains the same: to seek justice in every case.

In a speech entitled “*What it Means to be a Judge*,” retired New Hampshire Supreme Court Justice Joseph Nadeau argues that the role of the judge is not simply “to seek justice but *do* justice.”² To *do* justice, he argues, a judge must:

“... have (*sic*) confidence without conceit, decisiveness without arrogance, and passion without pretense. It means remembering

where you came from and who you are. It means being aware of the conditions and circumstances under which the people who come before you live and act... being a judge means using common sense as well as the law to solve problems, problems that sometimes seem impossible to solve...³

I appreciate these words, borne of his years of experience on the bench. Justice Nadeau indeed sets a high bar for all judges, and rightly so, considering the public trust and confidence citizens place in its judiciary.

In truth, it can be challenging to deliver on the promise of justice with large dockets, little time, and fewer resources to offer those in need. Perhaps that's why the sentiments shared by Justice Nadeau resonate so deeply with me and my own experience on the bench. I share his belief that “to promote justice in all circumstances demands both our intellectual faculties as well as our creative energies.”⁴ The tendency, of course, is to think of judges as dispassionate arbiters of justice when, in fact, we do best when we “use mind, intellect, and heart to weigh competing interests, analyze the law, decide the facts and search for a just conclusion.”⁵

And while judges play an important role in our legal system, there are several stakeholders throughout the community who also work hard and with equal passion to achieve justice for all of our citizens. As a nation, we are beginning to see and understand that there are serious and systemic challenges facing our criminal justice system. The issue of criminal justice reform will most certainly play a role in the upcoming presidential election. Judges, prosecutors and defenders, law enforcement agencies, state and local governments, nonprofits and social service agencies, among others, all have a stake in the outcome of these important public policy debates.

Over the course of 2016, I hope to touch on some of these issues, as they relate to the work of the Court, either through public talks or installments here in the City Currents. In the meantime, I invite you to visit my courtroom, observe a hearing or a jury trial and see for yourself the attorneys and court staff who work hard to *do* justice in your community each and every day. Once again, thank you for the opportunity to serve this community and our system of justice.

Hon. Lisa M. Leone

¹ Hon. Joseph Nadeau, *What it Means to be a Judge, Address Before the Conference on “Promoting the Role of the Judiciary in the Middle East and North Africa Region”* (June 27-29, 2006), in *Al-Ahram Weekly* (Sept. 21, 2006).

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ *Ibid.*

Housing Repair Assistance Program



The City of Des Moines provides minor home repair services to City resident homeowners who have "extremely low" to "low" incomes based on the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Income guidelines. This is done by providing free repair services to improve the health and safety of our residents as they live in their homes.

SERVICES PROVIDED INCLUDE:

- Electrical
- Disability Aids
- Safety
- Minor home repairs

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Call 206-870-6535



Bench Donation Program

The Bench Donation program allows citizens and business to dedicate a bench to a family or friend for a ten year time frame. If you are interested in purchasing a bench to honor someone you know, please phone 206-870-6547 for more information or email jbest@desmoineswa.gov.

New Street Banners

This year we will install NEW Street Banners on Marine View Drive and 7th Avenue between South 216th and South 227th. We are changing the banner design to incorporate the bright blue theme established on 216th and the banners will be an extra foot larger! The new banners will create identity for the Marina District as residents and tourists pass through the City and promote local businesses. The banners are fade resistant and made from a heavy 22 ounce vinyl. Each banner is \$200 for 1 year with an annual renewal fee of \$125. If you have a business in Des Moines and would like to participate, phone 206-870-6547 or email jbest@desmoineswa.gov



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Office Outreach Center
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HARMONY within Diversity

I RECENTLY CELEBRATED MY FOUR YEAR ANNIVERSARY of being in America. How did I celebrate you may ask? I spent the night writing a history essay, so much fun. For a girl like me, coming from a place where everyone basically looked the same, ate the same food and pretty much spoke the same language... America was a culture shock. So many languages, so many cultures, and so many people from around the world, all with different experiences. It's amazing how much one country, one state and even one city can offer.

I am currently a sophomore at Mount Rainier High School in Des Moines, WA. Every day at school, I see people of different ethnicities, cultures and beliefs. I see people with different appearances and hear different languages and accents. But what we don't often hear are peoples experiences. We tend to quickly judge a person and never talk to them. Although the idea of diversity is amongst all of us we don't recognize it to its full potential. People in our community are not encouraged to express their true selves

using their cultural perspectives. This is mostly caused by our misleading belief that diversity is a divider, which instantly disassociates us from one another, thus creating an "us" and a "they". Every day our goal should be to embrace what makes us different, instead of hiding or shaming others for celebrating who they are.

I am working on an art project that is a sum of my two passions: photography and diversity-to show harmony within diversity. This art project is designed to inspire people to look around and recognize that we are indeed different from one another. In order to create harmony we need to know and respect each other's differences.

During the month of May, "Harmony within Diversity", will be publicly displayed on the outside of Des Moines Theater. Twenty Mount Rainier High School students will be photographed holding a sign with a short statement and/or one word that captures their diversity. With thanks to the Inside Out Project, City of Des Moines and Adobe PITCH with Reel Grrls, I will be able to make this project a reality. I want this project to project the beauty that is often overlooked.



Rahel Ambachew's art project "Harmony Within Diversity" will be on display outside of the Des Moines Theater on Marine View Drive S. between S 223rd and S 225th

Planning a remodel or home improvement project?

After the long wet winter, spring is almost here, and fixing up the house and yard is on top of the 'to do' list. If you are planning some remodel work on your home, it's important to remember that some work may require a building, electrical or other permit. The City's building Division is here to help! So, before you begin a remodel project, please give us a call. Best of all, the information is free! Our professional staff will help you determine what if any permits are needed, and guide you through the process.

The City of Des Moines Building Department welcomes you to come into City Hall and visit with us. Our staff is available to the public Monday thru Friday between the hours of 9 AM and 11 AM. Staff members from all Departments will be available during these hours to answer your building, zoning or engineering questions and to provide preliminary review of your plans and discuss your projects.

Appointments are not required. If, by chance, you are unable to come in during these hours, appointments can be made by calling 206-870-7576.

We are located at 21630 11th Avenue South, Suite D. We look forward to speaking with you regarding any projects that you may be contemplating.

Code Enforcement Officer Position Eliminated

Due to 2016 budget constraints and shortfalls, the Code Enforcement Officer Position has been eliminated, effective December 31, 2015. The result of this budget cut will be a significant reduction in the level of service that the City is able to provide related to Code Enforcement issues and concerns. At this point in time, fire and life safety issues will be our top priority. All other matters will be addressed as staff availability and time permits.

If you have a code enforcement related concern, please visit the City's web site and fill out a "fix-it form", including your, phone number, e-mail address, property address and details about your concerns and your information will be routed to the appropriate person, and addressed as time allows.

Redondo Boardwalk Repair Construction Begins!

On February 11th, 2016, the City Council awarded the Construction contract to Stellar J Corporation and construction is expected to begin the week of March 7th. The City is anticipating project completion this summer which will consist of a new concrete boardwalk, pedestrian railing, low-level deck lighting, and pedestrian crossing improvements at South 287th Street & Redondo Beach Drive.

For more information please visit the City's website, under "City News," or contact Andrew Merges at amerges@desmoineswa.gov or 206-870-6568.



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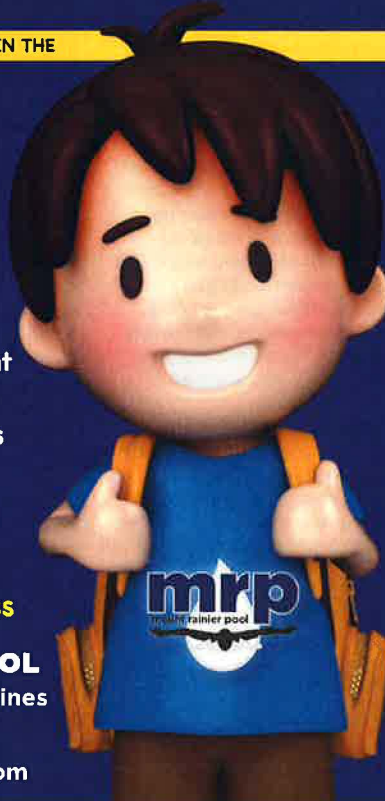
Research shows kids who swim do better in school

- The first few years of a child's life is a crucial time for brain development
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*According to research by Australia's Griffith Institute for Educational Research

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Pool board welcomes new district manager

The Des Moines Pool Metropolitan Park District Board of Commissioners is pleased to announce the appointment of new District Manager Scott Deschenes.

Scott comes to us with 20 years of experience with community recreation centers. He comes to us from Clallam County Parks and Recreation District No. 1, where he was Executive Director. The community center there included a full-size competition pool and other fitness elements.

"Scott brings an excellent background and skillset to the team. He came highly recommended by former board members and peers," said Toni Overmyer, pool district board president.

Local residents voted to create the Des Moines Pool Metropolitan Park District in November 2009 after budget restraints threatened its closure. It is governed by a five-member, independently elected, board of commissioners. Public meetings are the first Tuesday of each month, 5 p.m. at the district office. Learn more at www.desmoinespool.org.



MaST Project Promotes Education For Local Crab Fishermen

Des Moines, Washington

HIGHLINE COLLEGE'S MARINE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the City of Des Moines Marina create multi-lingual signs to help reduce illegal harvesting of crab on the Marina's public fishing piers. The project was funded by a \$1,000 grant from the Barbara Schwantes Memorial Fund.

The Marine Science and Technology (MaST) Center partnered with the Des Moines Marina and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to apply for and receive a grant from the Barbara Schwantes Memorial Fund that financed the design and purchase of the signs. The fund was created by the Pacific Coast Congress of Harbormaster and Port Managers (PCC) in honor of one of the organizations founding members. The PCC is an organization that promotes the continuing education of harbormasters and port managers and includes members from the San Francisco Bay area to Dutch Harbor, Alaska. The Fund is available for projects and scholarships and helps support a wide variety of marine related programs.

Specifically targeting the recreational crab fishery, the signs will be installed at three of the most popular fishing locations in the Des Moines area. The MaST Center's Education Coordinator, Eugene Disney, who also was the leader on this project says "The signs highlight the two legal species of crab with information about how to recognize legal males from illegal females. The signs also display pictures of the species of crab which



Project Leader Eugene Disney and sign at the Des Moines Marina

are not legal to harvest and most likely to be taken illegally. Crab fishermen can use the signs to properly identify their catch so they can make informed decisions about keeping or releasing their catch." One frequent cause for citations is the taking of undersized crab so the signs also include a "crab gauge" cut into the sign.

Besides English, the information on the signs is also presented in Vietnamese and Spanish. Given that South King County, where Des Moines is located, is one of the most ethnically diverse regions in the country, the multi-lingual signs will help educate fishermen who may have weak or non-existent English skills.

The MaST Center, WDFW and the City of Des Moines Marina hope the installation of these signs will help decrease the number of citations and result in a greater sense of stewardship for the marine environment.

Former NBA Player and Local Standout Brian Scalabrine and Village Concepts to bring The Adriana to Des Moines this fall



THE ADRIANA, THE NEWEST IN THE VILLAGE CONCEPTS series of community-focused retirement and assisted living communities is coming to Des Moines. The \$23 million project is scheduled to break ground this September in Des Moines.

The Adriana will be co-owned by Brian Scalabrine, a former NBA Boston Celtics player, Highline College student and elder care advocate. The project is named after his two daughters, Elliana and Adria. Scalabrine and Village Concepts share a common mission; to provide outstanding housing for seniors where

they can feel comfortable, valued, and safe. At Village Concepts, a family business, this philosophy has been passed down to Chief Executive Officer Stuart Brown, the third in a line of strong advocates for the elderly and those in need of assisted living facilities.

For Scalabrine, the desire to support senior housing efforts stems from childhood, when he would visit his grandparents in their mobile home park. Puzzled by the complacency surrounding the inexcusable treatment of the elderly, Scalabrine has been searching for a better solution for senior housing ever since.

Investing in The Adriana is his way of giving back and honoring the countless contributions the elder generation has made.

At the January 14th city council meeting, Village Concepts donated \$32,000 to the Des Moines Legacy Foundation. This 501c3 foundation, formed in 1999 to support Des Moines parks, recreation and senior services will use the funds to support the community's programs and services for older adults.

"We're honored to become a part of the fabric of the growing Des Moines community,"

said Stuart Brown, Village Concepts CEO. "We're excited to offer the Adriana as the premier community retirement location in the Des Moines area."

The opening of The Adriana will help fulfill the need for affordable housing for seniors and contribute to the revitalization goals of Des Moines' marina district. Residents of the new assisted living facility will be able to stroll through the nearby Saltwater State Park, visit the public library or take classes at Highline Community College. The Adriana will feature 119 units spanning across five stories and is slated to open fall of 2016.

For more information visit www.villageconcepts.com.



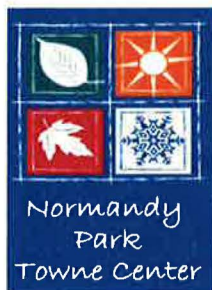


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