



## City of Coeur d'Alene Municipal Milestones Newsletter

Issue 18/November 2015

### IN THE NEWS

#### Leaf-Fest '15 Kicks Off November 16

If you haven't done so already, now is the time to rake leaves and pine needles into your street in preparation for the city's free leaf pick-up program, which begins next Monday. Crews will begin the pick-up south of Sherman Avenue and work their way north from west to east. Last year, leaf collection was completed in 10 days as the street department hauled 791 dump truck loads of leaves totaling 1,688 tons.



As in years past, an online map providing frequent updates on Leaf-Fest '15 will be posted on the city's website ([cdaid.org](http://cdaid.org)), Facebook page ([facebook.com/CDAgov](https://facebook.com/CDAgov)) and blog ([cdacity.blogspot.com](http://cdacity.blogspot.com)).

#### Cd'A Firefighters Help with Tubbs Hill Tree Work

In the interest of public safety and to mitigate possible fire hazards, representatives of the city's fire department, as well as parks and recreation staff, recently removed a small number of dead and diseased trees from Tubbs Hill. The routine work, conducted annually, targets ailing trees near public trails and also trees that pose a risk to firefighters when fighting fires on the hill, said Coeur d'Alene Urban Forestry Coordinator Katie Kosanke.



### Newsletter Archives



### CITY FACES



#### Planners Paradise:

#### Mike Behary Lured to Area's Local Charm, Friendly People

Accepting a job offer with the Lake City's bustling planning department required a move half-way across the country, but Illinois native Mike Behary says he is thrilled with his new position. The veteran planner started working for

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This year, firefighters will receive training from the Idaho Department of Lands, Kosanke said. They will be trained to recognize hazards, safely mitigate those hazards and be provided with skills and certifications.

## Historical Plaques Dedicated at McEuen Park

Eight historical photos were recently installed on the donor wall at McEuen Park. The historical picture plaques remember the people, events and special moments in history that make the beauty of McEuen Park and the surrounding area so unique, said Tinka Schaffer of the Panhandle Parks Foundation.



Money raised from donor wall sales will stay in our community and help to develop amenities for existing parks as well as helping us to work toward securing property for future parks, open space and recreational facilities. For details on purchasing space on the donor wall to have a name engraved, visit [panhandleparksfoundation.org](http://panhandleparksfoundation.org).

## Cd'A Building Department Provides Students with Inspection Tips

Carpentry students at North Idaho College are learning that in the real world, career options for their trade go beyond actual construction. Their knowledge could also help land them a job as a building inspector.



Five second-year carpentry students recently were provided with a better understanding about building inspection with guidance from Coeur d'Alene building officials. The hands-on training

allowed the students to learn why things are done the way they are, providing them with a glimpse into building inspection and helping them determine if they want to go in that direction.

## Students Plant Trees at Person Field

Students from Lakes Magnet Middle School recently assisted the Parks and Recreation Department in planting 16 new trees at Person Field. As the trees grow, they will provide shade for spectators at sporting events and provide an

the city in late September and he's had his hands full ever since. Municipal Milestones recently caught up with Mike to learn more about his new role with the city and his love for the area.

**We're told the planning department is unseasonably busy right now. What is the focus of your current workload?** Yes, there is a lot going on. I will be working on annexations, rezoning, special use permits, writing staff reports, and updating the GIS (Geographic Information System).

**What interested you in a job with the city of Coeur d'Alene?** I love the area with all the trails and great places to enjoy the outdoors. The city is awesome with all of its events and local charm. The people are the best thing of all; so friendly and ready to give a hand at a moment's notice. I feel at home here and wake up every morning living the dream.

**Have you always been interested in planning?** Yes, and part of that is enjoying the company of colleagues. I am very happy working with the planning team here and coming in to work every day. They are so great to work with and have a passion for this community. It makes coming to work so enjoyable.

**What is your education and professional background?** I graduated from Illinois State University with a degree in Geography. I have 13 years of planning experience and prior to that I worked with GIS for seven years.

**Tell us a little bit about yourself.** I was raised in Bloomington-Normal, Illinois. I grew up with a creek in my back yard and enjoyed the outdoors and camping as a

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aesthetically pleasing buffer along the fence line.

“The students learned how to plant trees and worked very hard, finishing up the planting in just over an hour. A big thank you to the tree planters from Lakes Magnet Middle School!” Kosanke said.



## Cd'A Fire Honors Safety through Education

Continuing its mission to provide exemplary fire protection, the Coeur d'Alene Fire Department has recently been recognized with three honors for its



commitment to safety through education. These include the Edward Ziegler Award, presented to fire inspector Bobby Gonder for his support to strengthen family relationships by donating coats and fire detectors; the A+ Award from the Coeur d'Alene Chamber of

Commerce's Education Committee for its outstanding commitment to education; and the Life Safety Achievement Award from the National Association of State Fire Marshals for prevention accomplishments in 2014.

“These three prominent recognitions give the community proof that we are standing by our commitment of fire safety through education,” said Coeur d'Alene Fire Chief Kenny Gabriel.

## CITY SCOPE

### Downtown Lighting Ceremony is November 27

Mark your calendars! The unofficial kickoff to the holiday season will take place on Friday evening, November 27, in downtown Coeur d'Alene. Watch as parade entries light up Sherman Avenue. View marching bands, floats, music and fun! At the end of the show, the switch is flipped and over 1.5 million lights will illuminate the Coeur d'Alene Resort and downtown area. Witness firsthand why tens of thousands of people flock to the downtown area on this special day to enjoy the excitement and get into the holiday spirit!



kid. Growing up, my dad would always take me and my brother fishing on the Rock and Fox Rivers. This is one of my fondest memories as a kid. My dad has since passed. After high school I joined the Army and was stationed at Ft. Lewis, Washington. After the Army, I returned to Illinois and attended college at Illinois State University. During a summer in my college years I went on a 28-day canoe trip down the Mississippi River. I started on the Mackinaw River near Bloomington,

“I enjoy planning and all the challenges that come with it.”

Illinois, and took that river to the Illinois River and then into the Mississippi River and continued all the way down to New Orleans. I returned to Washington state and climbed Mount Rainier. I am so excited to be able to enjoy the outdoors here in northern Idaho; it is truly one of the most beautiful places on earth.

