



City of Coeur d'Alene Municipal Milestones Newsletter

Issue 5/October 2014

IN THE NEWS

Arts Activists Honored for Contributions to the Community



Pictured L to R: Stephen Shortridge, Jeni Riplinger-Hegsted, Steve Widmyer, Ruth Pratt

The city of Coeur d'Alene's Arts Commission recently announced winners of the 19th Annual Mayor's Awards in the Arts. The winners are: **Excellence in the Arts**, Stephen Shortridge; **Support of the Arts**, Ruth Pratt; **Arts in Education**, Jeni Riplinger-Hegsted.

Mayor Steve Widmyer applauded the award recipients and recognized the importance of public art to a community. "I was recently reading an article about the five main ingredients of a great city and one of those ingredients was having a dedicated public art program," Widmyer said. "The city of Coeur d'Alene is dedicated to continuing to build a great public arts program."

Mayor's Show Highlights Spokane River Corridor

The latest "Coffee with the Mayor" show is now airing on Channel 19. It focuses on development of a master plan for what is known as the Four Corners/BLM corridor, which stretches from Independence Point downtown west to Huetter, generally bordering the Spokane River.

The 30-minute show is hosted by Coeur d'Alene Mayor Steve Widmyer and Council President Woody McEvers. This month, Phil Boyd and Dell Hatch of Welch-Comer Engineers discuss the master plan they are preparing and possible public uses in the corridor. The show will air Sunday and Wednesday at noon, Monday and Friday at 6 a.m. and 6 p.m., and Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 12 a.m.



Pictured L to R: Woody McEvers, Steve Widmyer, Dell Hatch, Phil Boyd

Newsletter Archives



CITY FACES



Water Superintendent

Jim Markley: Keeping Coeur d'Alene Hydrated

Just imagine what your city would be like without a well-functioning water system. Can't picture it? Jim Markley can't either and he is thrilled to work with dedicated employees at the city's water utility who make sure that when you turn the tap, fresh water pours.

"It is a privilege to work in the water

(Continued on page 2)



City of Coeur d'Alene Municipal Milestones Newsletter

Video of Governor's Debate Posted on City's Website



L to R: A. J. Balukoff, John Bujak,
Butch Otter, Pro Life

We've posted the video of the gubernatorial debate held Friday, October 3 at the Library. You can find it on our home page at [cdavid.org](http://www.cdavid.org), then click on the TV icon on the right side. Or just click on this link:

<http://www.cdavid.org/Videos?video=180>.

Photo Contest Offers Lunch With the Mayor

In recognition of National Community Planning Month in October, the city of Coeur d'Alene is sponsoring a "What Makes Places Great" photo contest all month long. Send us photos that you feel best represent the city and make this a great place to live or visit.

Winners will be named in early November in two categories: Youth (under 18) and adult. Winners in both categories get a free lunch for two with Coeur d'Alene Mayor Steve Widmyer. There will also be a People's Choice Award for a gift card to Vault Coffee on Sherman Avenue. Your pictures can be sent to kerickson@cdavid.org. For full details on the contest, visit cdavid.org/planning and click on the photo contest button.

Coeur d'Green Doing Its Magic at McEuen Park

The new grass at McEuen Park continues to grow greener with lots of TLC from the city's parks department. Crews recently spread 100 yards (the equivalent to about six dump truck loads) of fertilizer onto the popular park. Specifically, the parks department used "Coeur d'Green," a by-product of the city's wastewater utility. The compost is made from de-watered biosolids from the treatment plant that are mixed with wood chips.



YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK

New Trail Lamps at Riverstone Park Save on Electricity and Maintenance

A nighttime stroll around Riverstone Park is made more pleasant by illuminated bollards that light the way. Recently, the city replaced the lighting mechanisms

department," says Jim, a 35-year city employee who heads up the water department. "It is nice to bask in the pride that the employees take in 'their' water system."

The city's water superintendent adds, "Working at the water department also provides interesting challenges — from working with regional water purveyors to plot the future of aquifer appropriations, to explaining to a caller that we do not add an air-triggered 'water thickening agent' (her sink was stopped up)."

Jim has seen vast changes since he started in the water department in 1993. At that time, there were 10,000 accounts and 158 miles of

*"It is a privilege to work
in the water department."
- Jim Markley*

water main. During his first year in the department the city pumped 2.1 billion gallons of water. Last year, there were 17,000 accounts, 284 miles of mains and the city pumped 3.9 billion gallons. That's growth.

Jim was hired by the city in 1978 as a civil engineer and promoted to city engineer in 1980, a post he held until 1993 when he joined the water department. In the past 21 years, the city has nearly doubled the number of wells serving the city, from four to nine. A tenth well in the rapidly growing northwest part of the city will open soon,

(Continued on page 3)



City of Coeur d'Alene Municipal Milestones Newsletter

in 54 existing bollards with more efficient LED lamps. The new lighting system will reduce electricity costs by about 50 percent, according to Howard Gould, the city's building maintenance supervisor. Previously, the city was billed about \$300 a month for the electricity so the savings should amount to about \$150.00 per month.



Bollards like this one in Riverstone are being updated with needed LED lamps

In addition to the utility savings, the new lamps will result in an annual reduction in maintenance labor costs of \$921 as replacement of the lamps is made much easier, according to an Energy Efficiency Improvements Evaluation Report produced by Avista. The LED lamps were purchased with assistance from a rebate allocated by Avista for the installation of LED lighting at McEuen Park.

CITY SCOPE

Open House, Bike Ride Planned for National Community Planning Month



The city's Planning Department will be hosting an open house on Wednesday, October 29, from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Community Room at the Library. Planning professionals from around the community will showcase various planning efforts in our

city to demonstrate how planning contributes to making our city a great place to live.

In the meantime, on Thursday, October 23, there will be a bicycle tour to experience various planning aspects around downtown, midtown, and Sanders Beach. Cyclists will meet at the City Hall upper parking lot, 710 Mullan Avenue, at 5:30 p.m. The ride is limited to the first 24 people. For information, contact lburchette@cdaid.org or jamie@jmorgan.us.

making sure demands for water across our growing city are met.

An ample water supply is something every city resident can count on, even as those demands fluctuate considerably throughout the year. For example, in February, the city pumps 5 to 6 million gallons of water a day. On a hot August day, that can increase to 30 million gallons. Once the new well (scheduled to go online in late November) begins operation, the city will have a capacity of 37 million gallons a day.

After all these years, Jim said he still loves working for the city and looks forward to coming to work. "It's a great job; every day I come to work knowing that people expect to get water — and every day we make it happen," Jim said.

New City Logo!

The Coeur d'Alene City Council has voted unanimously to adopt a new city logo. The logo will be phased in over a period of time on city materials including letterhead, business cards, stationery and other general government materials. The website will also be updated during this transition period.

