

LA CENTER BULLETIN

BE IN THE KNOW WITH THE CITY CLOSE TO NATURE



MAYOR'S CORNER

Season's Greetings Neighbors from the Mayor, City Council and City Employees: 2022 is nearly over and now is the time of year for celebrating the Christmas holidays spending time with our families, friends, and neighbors. I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy holiday season filled with joy, peace, good health, and great memories. Also, I want to thank the city council members, planning commissioners, city staff, professional consultants, and volunteers who contributed their hard work and dedication in making 2022 a very productive and successful year for our wonderful community.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays everyone!

Mayor, Greg Thornton

OUR HOUSE IS OPEN

Boxes are unpacked, furniture is set up, files are put away, phones, elevator, and computers are working, and things are put up on the walls. This means City Hall is ready to be shared with the community! Please join us on Tuesday, December 6 from 3-5 p.m. for our ribbon-cutting ceremony, Christmas carolers, and some yummy treats while you tour the halls and offices of your city employees. We will be displaying local artists' work on the walls along with permanent historic photos of La Center so that we may embrace our history while making positive changes for the future!

ART -

GOOD FOR THE SOUL

The city is excited to be working on a new art installation program that will go on indefinitely! We made a call to all La Center artists in painting, sculpture, and sketch to have an opportunity to display their work on a rotating basis here at City Hall. Our first set of artists that will have work on display (and some of it for sale to the public) is Dan Masterson, Cindy Vajtai, Tina Haeger, and Richard Britschgi at our City Hall Open House on December 6 from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Their artwork will be on display for a few months and then they will come in and change out pieces so you may never see the same thing twice down the hallways of our building. We look forward to adding more local artists pieces like Adam McIsaac and the youth of our community! If you are an artist of La Center or know anyone who is, and would like your work considered to don the walls of City Hall, please contact Desi Allinger-Nelson at 360-263-8656. "Art is not what you see, but what you make others see." – Edgar Degas

TRADITIONS OLD & NEW

The city is excited to once again, host our traditional Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony on Sunday, December 4 beginning at 4:30 p.m. We had so many families and friends attend last year, we hope to see you all again this

year for hot cocoa & cider, cookies, interactive nativity, coloring contest, meet Santa and Mrs. Claus, school choir & bands, and, a new event – Paint the Plow! Together we will ring in the Christmas season along with the official tree lighting around 5:00 p.m.! Bring the whole family and all your friends!

LOW-INCOME VERIFICATION

The New Year is just around the corner and that means it will be time to submit your 2022 income verification for those who are currently receiving reduced rates on their sewer and/or storm water accounts. Please email, mail or drop a copy off of your income verification to City Hall to continue to receive a reduced rate. We must verify income from each person living in the home and the number of people in the home.

If you are not receiving a reduced rate, and think you might qualify, please call Desi Allinger-Nelson for verification at 360-263-8656 or email at: dallingernelson@ci.lacenter.wa.us. The income threshold will be updated from the State of Washington Median Income for 2023 rates, effective January 1, 2023.

**Check Out the New
City Website
ci.lacenter.wa.us**

FUN FACT:

The Lewis River Post Office, established in 1874, was renamed the La Center Post Office in 1877 twenty years before La Center was recognized as a town.

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COMMUNITY SERVICE

“Help the life of one person and you help the community.”

– Steven Sawalich

The Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), along with Meals on Wheels, is providing a few, wonderful hours of servicing the La Center community on Thursday, December 15. DSHS will be parked outside the community center at Holley Park from 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. in their Mobile Community Services Office that provides public assistance for our community who are in need of Basic Food and cash benefits. The mobile unit is equipped with all the amenities of any office and includes a wheelchair lift to provide access inside the mobile unit. Meals on Wheels will be serving a special menu to people over 60 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. inside the community center. Contribution in any amount is required.

WHAT'S HAPPENIN' IN LA CENTER?

It'd be hard to miss the construction at the I-5 junction when coming into La Center. Local residents have been used to seeing the Shell Station and truck stop that was located off of La Center Road since the late 1980s. The property that the Shell sat on has since been split into four commercial lots. First to be constructed will be a new Shell gas station and a convenience store that will be named 'Minit Mart'. Following that a Hampton Inn hotel will be constructed beginning in 2023. The two remaining lots will be home to a commercial building for different tenants to occupy and a drive-thru restaurant. This building at the La Center junction is just the beginning of the commercial growth in this area of the City. New residential development is also underway in the City. The second

phase of Highland Terrace north of Pacific Highway is close to wrapping up, as is the Stephen's Hillside project west of Aspen Avenue and North Fork Avenue. These projects will bring 130 new homes into the City.

Check out the Recent Land Use page for more on development.

<https://ci.lacenter.wa.us/city-departments/community-development/community-development-planning/recent-land-use/>

FOLLOW YOUR BLISS

The City of La Center has gained another business and we like sharing her story. Bhrigha (pronounced BREE-YA) Getz is the owner of Blissed Bodywork and Blissed Wellness and her studio is located at the Heritage Center in Suite C203. Read the complete article at ci.lacenter.wa.us.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 3:

La Center Lions Club
Drive and Drop Food Collection,
8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.,
La Center Bridge

December 3:

La Center Music Association
Holiday Bazaar
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Middle School

December 7:

La Center Library Holiday
Centerpiece Workshop,
3:30 – 5:30 p.m.,
Community Center
(donations of greenery welcome)

December 14:

La Center Library Gingerbread
House Decorating,
3:30-5:00 p.m., (3 years and older),
Community Center

January 11:

La Center Library
Wings of Fire Party,
3:30-5:00 p.m., (school age)

January 13:

La Center Library Yarn Buzz,
10:00 a.m.

January 19:

La Center Library
Little Tykes Drive-In (18 months to 5
years), 10:30 a.m.

January 30:

La Center Library Teen Board Games
(12-18 years),
3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

1st and 3rd Thursday of each month

The La Center Lions meeting,
7:00 p.m., Elementary School

Visit the Civic Web
lacenter.civicweb.net/portal

City Council Meetings

December 7 & 14 | City Council
January 11 & 25 | Retreat
February 8 & 22 | January 7