

LA CENTER BULLETIN

BE IN THE KNOW WITH THE CITY CLOSE TO NATURE



TEAM CHALLENGE

Jess Lee, a partner at Sequoia Capital, is not ed to say about hiring, “It’s about picking your team and throwing out big challenges.” The city sought out applicants for that one person who would be challenged and responsible for executing targeted recreation, volunteer and community programs, and engagement strategies targeted towards civic-minded individuals, local businesses and community leaders. The Outreach Coordinator is a new position that is responsible for assisting with facility and park rentals, special events, and vendor permitting, just to name a few. Let’s meet a new face – Hannah Shields!

Hannah will also be assisting with updating the city’s website, reader board, and Facebook. She recently graduated from Washington State University in Pullman, Washington with a degree in Strategic Communications and Public Relations, and is a graduate of Columbia River High School. She has experience in directing a team to orchestrate large scale events, executing those events, as well as marketing for those events as the Executive Director for the WSU Student Entertainment Board. Hannah possesses skills in social media marketing, organizational management, event planning, and most importantly, communication.

What is she looking forward to while working for the City of La Center? “Creating lasting relationships and friendships with members of the community, and of course, working with an amazing team of people at the city,” states Hannah. And, if you are a book reader, Hannah is always accepting a good book recommendation for she loves to read and hopes, one day, to write a book of her own. Now, that is a challenge!

SUMMER OF CELEBRATION

Our Days Steamboat Celebration in July was a huge success with the Wild West on the River theme that brought over 1800 people to celebrate our hometown community festival. The festivities included something for all ages from Kidzone, a beer garden to a cake walk. Many enjoyed the viewing of the car show, which had over 200 vehicles, watching a movie in the park and playing bingo. There was an outstanding number of participants for the Beautiful Baby contest, and over 70 participants in the 5k. And, let us not forget the traditional Twilight parade featuring our Grand Marshall, Pastor Mike Kirkman! The most popular event of the day was watching La Center High School Football Coach, John Lambert in the dunk tank! Mark your calendars for another fun-filled weekend on July 25 and 26, 2025 in the spirit of Our Days Steamboat Celebration!

Around the country, over 16,000 communities participate in National Night Out (NNO). NNO creates partnerships between the police and community, highlights drug and violence prevention, community safety, and neighborhood unity. At The City of La Center’s NNO, community partners such as La Center United, the Lion’s Club, the La Center Arts Council, the La Center Library, and our city employees, along with well over 200 community guests, were at Holley Park celebrating and bringing awareness to our community. Live music was performed by Christopher Voitach and Sharry Alves while many activities were provided to adults and children alike such as face painting and seeing close-hand the service vehicles from the Clark County Sheriff’s Department and the Clark-Cowlitz Fire Rescue. We would like to thank our sponsors Rosauers Super-

market of Ridgefield and Pepsi Ridgefield for the food and beverages along with the local community organizations for their volunteer work in making NNO a huge success in La Center. Mark your calendars: August 5, 2025, for next year’s NNO!

CELEBRATE LA CENTER’S UNSUNG HEROES

The City of La Center is honored and proud to welcome banners featuring current or previous military members from a variety of branches for our hometown heroes. If you are interested in purchasing a banner for yourself or as a gift for a military member, the cost of each banner is \$230. The banners purchased thus far can be found on the lights posts as you drive across the bridge on NW La Center Road. Please contact Hannah Shields at hshields@ci.lacenter.wa.us for more information or fill out the form on the City of La Center website at ci.lacenter.wa.us.

C-TRAN SURVEY CONNECTION TO LA CENTER

In January 2025, C-TRAN will start providing service in La Center. The tentative location for pickup/park & ride is 6th and Birch. This will be an extension to C-TRAN’s Route 48. To plan for our service in January, we want your feedback! We want to know about the best trip times to extend service, and what destinations are most important for you to hit in each direction. A survey will be available on our city website until September 13. Please share your thoughts on times and destinations for the service! We very much appreciate your willingness to share in our desire to bring more service to La Center.

John Timmen officially recorded the town site in 1875, originally known as Podunk but then changed the name to La Center (for the Center of Commerce) which was the major provider of railroad ties on the West Coast.

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SEPTEMBER 2024

NEW LA CENTER HOTEL

The City of La Center is excited to announce that a preliminary application has been received for a five story 109-unit hotel, to include a two-lot short plat and a quick serve drive through restaurant (the name of the restaurant to be announced at a later date).

The project name is Paradise Park Site Plan and will be located on the southeast corner of the intersection of Northwest La Center Road and Northwest Paradise Park Road. It will be constructed in two phases. The site is designated Commercial/Mixed Use on the City of La Center's Comprehensive Plan Map and is zoned Junction Plan (JP). The site is further designated as being within the Town Center (TC) Plan district of the Junction Plan.

All applications for the project will run concurrently and will be required to be processed as a Type III proposal that will include a public hearing and decision to be reviewed by the City's Hearings Examiner. The hearing date will be announced with the Notice of Public Hearing. For questions regarding the project,

please contact Angie Merrill amerrill@ci.lacenter.wa.us or 360.263.3654.

WHAT'S SUP?

Have you ever been interested in paddleboarding? A new business is opening in La Center, SUP Paddle Adventures, owned and operated by Chais Fox and his brother-in-law, Casey Goldin. Fox has been a resident of La Center since 2010 and says his purpose behind the business began with his love for the water and the serene environment that he gets to experience while out there. "Being on the water is more than just recreation", Fox said.

Business Manager, Jess Lemmon says she hopes to collaborate with other local business and members of the community. SUP Paddle Adventures has recently begun renting paddleboards to residents of La Center and Ridgefield. An employee will meet you at Timmons Landing to provide you with a board, the safety gear, and give a quick lesson on proper usage. SUP Paddle Adventures is a certified Washington Veteran Owned business. For citizens interested in trying paddleboarding, SUP Paddle Adventures is offering a 50% off your first rental. Rentals will

carry on through the summer as long as there is sun! You can find more about this water adventure by contacting Jess Lemmon at SUPPaddleAdventures@gmail.com or checking out their Facebook, SUP Paddle Adventures and their website, SUPPaddleAdventures.com.

THE NEED FOR CAFFEINE!

Just across the street from the city hall is Stonehill Coffee House Home, owned by Eric and Trudy Stenberg. Before it served coffee, it was serving the community as a pre-school where Trudy taught children of the community. They then began selling coffee in June 2011, and since then have served a variety of handcrafted drinks and pastries, using Portland local Stumptown coffee. They also sell vintage items including flannels, blankets, décor and more. These items are thrifted by Trudy herself. The Stenberg's love being involved in the community, whether it be with the schools or organizations around the community. They hope you visit them for a coffee and a pastry during their business hours; Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., and Saturdays 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Blood Drive

Thursday, October 3
12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
La Center City Hall

Santa House Calls

Friday, December 6

Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, December 7
La Center Middle School

Christmas Festival

Sunday, December 8
12:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Downtown La Center
www.lacenterchristmasfestival.com

Meals on Wheels

Every Thursday
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
La Center Community Center

La Center Historical Museum

First and third Saturday of
each month
12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

La Center Library

Events at:
www.FVRL.org/loc/la-center

Splash Pad

Open through
Labor Day

Visit the Civic Web
lacenter.civicweb.net/portal

City Council Meetings

September 11 & 25 | Office Closure
October 9 & 23 | November 11
November 13 & 20 | November 28 & 29