



# City of N. Bonneville Newsletter November 2012

## A Message from the Mayor's Desk

As we move closer to the holiday season I'd like to welcome two new employees to our Public Works department. Gary Bridgewater and Russell Watts came on board in mid-October and are working with Bryan to get up to speed on the many systems and areas they support to keep all of us safe and happy.

In keeping with the holiday spirit, I'd like to encourage all my fellow North Bonneville residents to participate with me in an ongoing gift idea that doesn't cost anything but will make a big difference in our city. It's a simple idea but one that some of us will have to work a little to keep in mind, at least at the start. I'm talking about flushing only appropriate materials into our sewer system.

While our main wastewater treatment plant is all new and improved, the pump stations that move wastewater through the system have not been upgraded and are the weak link in the system. These pump stations primarily pump or "lift" the wastewater up to a higher elevation so gravity can help move it to the main processing plant.

The stations are not designed to handle many of the items that are marketed as "flushable" these days and don't have the same capacity found in newer systems. This means many of the items that are advertised as "flushable" jam our pumps, often resulting over-time hours for our Public Works crew. Those extra hours of over-time result in higher sewer rates for all of us!

Please think before flushing feminine hygiene products, "disposable" diapers, baby wipes and other large items. Throwing them into the trash can save our Public Works crew literally hours of time unplugging jammed pumps and help prevent potential overflows from pump blockages. I'm sure we all agree the last thing we want is raw sewage overflowing into our city streets, so please join me in not putting any of these things down the drain.

As always, I am happy to address your questions, comments and concerns regarding all aspects of our community. You can reach me by email at [don@northbonneville.net](mailto:don@northbonneville.net) and the phone number here at City Hall is 427-8182. I'm not always in my office but I will get back to you as quickly as possible.

## Veterans Day



Honor our Veterans on November 11th

**THANK YOU** to our neighboring fire districts who helped with the structure fire on Columbia.

## TURKEY BINGO

NOVEMBER 17

Kids Bingo 1 - 3 pm

Adult Bingo 5 pm

Dinner - Burgers, chili, hot dogs, nachos...



## November Meetings at City Hall

Planning Commission 6th and 20th at 6 pm

Budget Workshop 13th and 27th at 6 pm

City Council 13th and 27th at 7 pm

## A Note From Your City Administrator

The North Bonneville City Council meets in City Hall on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of each month. Council agendas are distributed to the public the Wednesday prior to the meeting and council packets are emailed the day before. If you would like to be added to the mailing list to receive the agenda please email John Spencer at [john@northbonneville.net](mailto:john@northbonneville.net).

Residents often attend our council meetings expecting to get answers to their various questions and leave feeling frustrated and unheard. The reason for this frustration is that council meetings are an opportunity for the public to express opinions and observe the council make decisions. This is not the time for back-and-forth dialogue. The council wants to hear from you during meetings but they can not afford the time for a conversation during the public comment period.

The main reason for this is simple – no one wants to sit through an hours-long council meeting while one individual monopolizes the time with a Q&A session. Everyone is encouraged to contact staff or council during the week to discuss issues and get answers to their questions. Also, the city's website is always being improved and has much of the information you might be looking for.

Here are some other guidelines to help make our meetings more productive:

- When making comments, come prepared and come informed. It helps greatly if you have your comments in written format.
- After being recognized by the Mayor, please come to the microphone at the podium before speaking. Speakers should state their name and address and proceed with your statement.
- Try to keep your comments to three minutes. This allows others an opportunity to comment.
- The comment period is for comments, not questions. If you have specific questions concerning any of the items on the agenda please contact City Hall at [info@northbonneville.net](mailto:info@northbonneville.net), by phone at 509-427-8182, or come and speak with us personally. We are here from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- Do not expect the Councilors to answer questions posed during the Public Comment period. Public Comment periods are provided to allow you the public to express your concerns and for the Councilors to hear your comments. During the City Council meeting, a Councilor may if necessary ask a member of the commenting public for further clarification on their comments.
- Remember that during the Council meeting, you are an observer. A Council meeting is where the business of the city is being transacted. Agendas are usually quite full and require a great deal of discussion. The Councilors spend a great deal of their own time to study and prepare for these meetings. Disruptions from the audience only prolong these meetings.
- During the meeting please be respectful of others treating them as you would like to be treated. Personal attacks and derogatory comments directed to individuals are not allowed and will not be tolerated.
- Know your Councilors and City staff. They may be able to answer your questions outside the council meetings.



T

### BILLING REMINDERS

All payments are due the 20<sup>th</sup> of the billing month. If you have questions or need to make payment arrangements, please call Jennifer at city hall. **Bills will be late this month. Expect them by November 10th and will be due by November 30th.**

### VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are needed for our city's fire fighters, and planning commission. If you are interested, please contact us at City Hall!



### **DOG ORDINANCE 6.04.080**

The Skamania County Sheriff's Office office just fined someone \$100 for a loose dog that caused a bicyclist to crash per our ordinance 6.04.080:

All dogs found to be roaming at large upon any public place as that term is defined in subsection B of this section, or private property other than the private property of the owner or custodian of such dog or dogs within the corporate limits of the City of North Bonneville shall be deemed to constitute a public nuisance within the meaning of this chapter unless such dogs are under control by means of a chain or leash or are in a closed vehicle and under the personal control of the owner or custodian of such vehicle. Any dog found roaming at large may be impounded...

Upon issuance of an infraction, the dog may be subject to impoundment. Upon prosecution of an initial infraction, the owner shall be subject to a one hundred dollar (\$100.00) fine plus costs, including attorney fees. Upon prosecution of any subsequent infraction against the same owner, the owner shall be subject to a two hundred dollar (\$200.00) fine plus costs, including attorney fees. (Ord. 774 (part), 1999: Ord. 746 (part), 1998: Ord. 593 § 4, 1987)



### **Beacon Rock Golf Course Schedule Thanksgiving Weekend November 22 - 25:**

- 11-22: Clubhouse is closed for Thanksgiving
- 11-23: Black Friday - Clubhouse reopens at 9 am,  
Turkey Trot Triple Play tees off at Skamania Lodge at 9 am  
and heads to BRGC around 1 pm for lunch and the final nine holes.
- 11-24: Small Business Saturday - Support your locally owned business.
- 11-25: Last day for food service. We may still have some items remaining that we will be happy to serve, but don't expect much.

### **Library Happenings**

## **Pajama Storytime at North Bonneville Community Library**

All ages welcome, come with your family. PJ's are encouraged but not required. Come for stories and a craft. Snacks too!

Tuesday, November 13th  
7 pm

North Bonneville  
Community Library  
214 CBD Mall



Questions? Call 509-427-4439 or  
509-427-5471

### **[www.northbonneville.net](http://www.northbonneville.net)**

Have you visited our web site recently? We are continually improving it, and you can find all the following there:

- City Codes
- Complete Council Meeting Packets and Audio
- Staff Calendars
- City Forms
- Budgets
- City Maps
- Utility Information
- Newsletter Archives
- Ordinances and Resolutions
- Planning Documents

Send your suggestions for further improvements!

### **ACTS OF VANDALISM**

Recently the city has seen a number of acts of vandalism. Vulgar spray-painted messages have appeared on benches, bus shelters, and underpasses. In addition, one of the Little Foot statues has been torn from a tree and relocated elsewhere. Please help us by reporting any suspicious activities to the County Sheriff's Office at 509-427-9490.

# NOVEMBER 2012

See on-line calendar at  
[northbonneville.net/calendar.html](http://northbonneville.net/calendar.html)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 Fire Dept Trning 7 pm	6 Library 1 - 5 pm Snr Lunch 12 pm Muni Crt 1 pm PlanCom 6 pm	7 Library 1 - 5 pm	8 Library 1 - 5 pm Snr Lunch 12 pm	9	10
11	12 Fire Dept Trning 7 pm <b>CITY HALL CLOSED</b> <b>Veteran's Day</b>	13 Budget 6:00 pm City Council 7 pm Library 1 - 5 pm Snr Lunch 12 pm	14 Library 1 - 5 pm	15 Library 1 - 5 pm Snr Lunch 12 pm	16	17
18	19 Fire Dept Trning 7 pm	20 Library 1 - 5 pm Snr Lunch 12 pm Muni Crt 1pm Plan Com 6 pm	21 Library 1 - 5 pm	22 Library 1 - 5 pm Snr Lunch 12 pm <b>CITY HALL CLOSED</b> <b>Thanksgiving</b>	23 <b>CITY HALL CLOSED</b>	24
25	26 Fire Dept Trning 7 pm	27 Budget 6:00 pm City Council 7 pm Snr Lunch 12 pm	28 Library 1 - 5 pm	29	30	

