Art Exhibition to Salute Asian Pacific Heritage Month

Stop by City Hall during the month of May when the City will be honoring the contributions of Asian Pacific Americans to our community through the lens of visual arts and design. Fine arts, sculpture, couture and design by regional Asian Pacific Americans will be on display to celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

Paintings by Z. Z. Wei, glass sculpture by Boyd Sugiki, dresses designed by Seattle couturier Luly Yang, and a display recognizing the accomplishments of Wong Tsu, Boeing's first engineer are among the items shown. Eastside artists Aki Sogabe and Cherryl Leo Gwin will also be represented. The display will be available for viewing during regular business hours and on evenings when meetings are held at City Hall.

The exhibit kicks off with a City Council proclamation at its May 4th meeting and will continue throughout the month with a closing event planned at City Hall on May 28th. For more information on the exhibit or on the May 28 event, contact Mary Pat Byrne at 425-452-4105 or mpbyrne@bellevuewa.gov

Reminder: be Container Smart…

Did you know that leaving your garbage container on the curb more than one-to-two days isn't cart smart? Transportation and Utilities have some information that will help you be a good neighbor, tidy up your neighborhood and provide a safer sight line for drivers backing out of driveways. Here are some helpful reminders:

- Please place your containers out at curb by 7 a.m.
- Place containers two (2) feet apart with lids opening toward the street
- Do not block driveways or sidewalks and keep access clear for bicycles, pedestrians and wheelchairs
- Keep containers at least three (3) feet away from boats, building structures, cars, fences, mailboxes, trees, utility boxes, or other objects (The truck arms need clear overhead access to empty containers)
- Place wheels as close as possible to the curb or edge of road
- After pickup, remove containers as soon as possible or within 24 hours.

For questions, please contact Republic Services at 425-452-4762 or www.RepublicServicesNW.com
Cultural Conversations
“The practice of Gift giving across Culture; exploring hidden meanings in both giving and receiving”

Tuesday, May 19, 1-2:30 pm
Crossroads Community Center

In this month’s Cultural Conversations, the women’s group will explore the topic of gift giving. As our friends, family, neighborhoods and workplaces reflect the changing face of our community we are sometimes challenged with knowing how to give and to receive gifts with people who are important to us with understanding and respect. The meeting is open to all women who wish to enhance knowledge and understanding of different cultural practices and world views. The event is free, refreshments are served and women of all ages, faiths and cultures are welcome to attend.

Giving takes many forms, such as wrapped/unwrapped gifts, acts of service, “picking up” the check, paying for celebrations such as a wedding, new baby, and expression of sentiment, just to name a few. As we discuss this topic, we’ll learn that there can be different responsibilities placed both on the giver and the receiver.

Participants will hear from several storytellers sharing cross-cultural experiences of giving and receiving. What does giving mean in certain cultures? We don’t want to offend unknowingly. How do we offend others by not graciously receiving what is offered? When is a gift not a gift? How does one handle moments where the giving is misunderstood? How do we deal with gift rejection?

Cultural Conversations is a women’s group that was launched in 2010 as a partnership between diverse women in the community and the City of Bellevue. To participate in the sharing, we encourage you to make arrangements for childcare. If you’d like to be added to our mailing list, please contact cross@bellevuewa.gov.

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Public Safety Block Captain Summits

Monday, May 18, 7pm, Bellevue Library
Tuesday, May 19, 7pm, Lake Hills Library
Wednesday, May 27, 7pm, Newport Way Library

Enough food and water for a few days?…Check.
Security system?…Check.
Family plan?…Check.
But what if you want to do more to increase the safety of your family? You can, by reaching out to the people who live closest to you!

Join the Bellevue Office of Emergency Management and members of the Bellevue Citizen Corps Council and learn how to engage with your neighbors to start a neighborhood emergency response team and/or block watch. You have three opportunities to take the Public Safety Block Captain Summits classes. Admission is free. All past, current, and future neighborhood “captains” are invited. If you come, you will:

• Brush up on safety tips to go over at your summer block parties or gatherings.
• Learn strategies associated with organizing and canvassing the houses or units immediately around you.
• Meet and socialize with your neighbors around the topic of preparedness.

Become a trusted partner as a block captain, ready to report criminal activity or vital information during a disaster to the City of Bellevue.

Reasonable accommodation for individuals with disabilities is available; please contact the library location prior to the event if you require accommodation.

For more information on this program, please contact Sophia Le at 425-452-6935 or oempubliced@bellevuewa.gov

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Day of Sharing & Caring

Community Connection and Caring in Action

**Saturday, August 22**

The Jubilee REACH Day of Sharing and Caring, co-sponsored by the City of Bellevue and Jubilee REACH is in its’ 8th year.

Jubilee Service Day, which typically falls just before the opening of Bellevue Schools has two components, helping teachers to prepare elementary school classrooms for the beginning of the school year but also an outside home improvement component to help resident homeowners who may be in need. Saturday August 22 is a great day for all volunteers, but with additional hands to lend a hand with outside improvements including painting, carpentry repair, and yardwork, Jubilee REACH can help more residents in Bellevue neighborhoods.

You may be wondering how one person can make a difference in just 4 hours. As a volunteer you get to choose the area of your contribution be it weeding a flower bed, trimming hedges, raking leaves, using a power washer, minor carpentry repair, or perhaps painting trim or a section of a home. With 15-20 people working as a team, the improvement happens pretty fast; you’ll meet the homeowner, get to know a host of volunteers from the community, or even get to know a little more about Bellevue’s neighborhoods and the city’s history.

Upon completing the project, you’ve helped the resident in clearly visible ways, but what about in the ways you can’t see? Residents are made to feel a bit safer in their homes, with vines cut away from walkways, hedges trimmed below windows, slippery moss removed from driveways, light fixtures and house numbers made more visible, and railings made more secure. Another huge benefit is the way a resident who is supported by a caring community feels about where they live.

Homeowners needing help, please contact Carol Ross, cross@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7917 for more information. The deadline for applying for the program is May 26, 2015.

Consider volunteering as an individual, family, an association, an office or school work group. For more information and to register as a volunteer, please contact Ken Carpenter kenc@jubileereach.org or 425-818-4106.
**East Main Station Area Planning Online Open House**

The city is preparing for East Link light rail to open in Bellevue in 2023. The Station Area Planning Program aims to better incorporate light rail into neighboring areas once East Link is operational. East Link will have six stops in Bellevue, including the East Main station at 112th Ave SE, just south of Main Street.

Since September 2014, the council-appointed East Main Station Area Planning Citizen Advisory Committee has been working to identify challenges and opportunities and develop strategies to address them, in preparation for the addition of a light rail station to this area.

To help gain public feedback on initial ideas for the plan, the East Main Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) is hosting an interactive online open house (http://eastmainstationareaplan.publicmeeting.info/). The online open house will be available through May 10. Residents can comment on potential zoning changes on the east side of 112th Ave SE transportation changes in the area and more. Feedback will help the CAC formulate its recommendations to the Bellevue City Council later this year.

The city’s station area planning is separate from Sound Transit’s East Link project and does not address East Link light rail design, construction or mitigation. To learn more, please visit the East Main Station web page http://www.soundtransit.org/Projects-and-Plans/East-Link-Extension/East-Main-Station

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**2015 Bellevue Jazz & Blues Festival**

**May 27-31**

The 8th Annual Bellevue Jazz & Blues Festival returns to Downtown Bellevue this month. National artists and local musicians will perform in free and ticketed venues from May 27 to May. Featured artists include Booker T. Jones, the Dirty Dozen Brass Band, McTuff and Lloyd Jones Struggle.

Award-winning high school jazz programs will also be featured in the festival’s Student Showcase. Top student musicians from high schools and middle schools from around the Puget Sound region will perform to highlight the rich and diverse offerings presented by members of the local school jazz scene.

In addition, more than 40 shows in various locations will keep the music flowing throughout the weekend, featuring top local and regional artists.

Established in 2008, the festival is a cultural and community event that attracts national artists, showcases regional talent and educates emerging audiences. For more information, please visit the event website at http://www.bellevuedowntown.com/events/bellevue-jazz-blues-festival/overview
Car Prowling Prevention Tips

Car prowling is defined as unlawfully entering a vehicle, with intent to commit a crime, such as theft. The Police Department has seen an increase of car prowl thefts, leading to financial loss, and/or lost productivity, or greater consequences, such as loss of health and safety risks, or access to capital assets. Here are some safety tips on car prowl prevention:

• At night, store all valuable items inside your home for safekeeping, rather than leaving them in your car.
• Do not leave keys in the car.
• Ensure all doors, including the trunk, are locked and all windows are closed.
• Firearms, laptop computers, or digital cameras are natural targets for theft, since they are easily concealed, portable and able to be resold. Hide all items in the vehicle, regardless of value. If a car appears empty, prowlers will likely leave your vehicle alone.
• Park take home vehicles off of the street or in a garage if available.
• Bags, boxes, or binders suggest there may be valuables in the vehicle.
• The GPS unit suction cup on your windshield tells criminals you may have a GPS unit inside the vehicle.
• Spare change may also attract car prowlers; do not leave any visible spare change in the car.
• Prowlers may see you hide valuables in the trunk, place items in trunk prior to arriving at your destination.
May Meetings
(All meetings are in City Hall unless otherwise noted. Agendas are subject to change. You may confirm with Neighborhood Outreach the day before or day of the meeting. Or consult the City web pages listed below to download agendas.)

5/4 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) USE Report on independent technical analysis for Energize Eastside (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Proclamations for Bike to Work Month, National Kids to Parks Day, National Safe Boating Week, and Older Americans Month, State of the County Report, City Manager’s Report, Consent Calendar, Land Use Decision on Hearing Examiner’s Recommendation on PSE CUP Application, Discussion on PACE http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

5/5 East Bellevue Community Council (6:30, Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.) Agenda to be determined http://www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC_Homepage.htm

5/5 Arts Commission (4:30, 1E-109) Agenda items will include artists selected for Meydenbauer Bay Park public art, update on PACE, EastLink hospital station presentation, and Commissioner elections http://www.bellevuewa.gov/arts_comm.htm


5/7 Bellevue Network on Aging (8:30-10:30a.m., 1E-121) Diversity Initiative, Committee Reports http://www.bellevuewa.gov/network_on_aging.htm

5/11 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) Joint meeting with City of Kirkland Council, Comprehensive Plan Update (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Agenda to be determined http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

5/12 Parks & Community Services Board (6:00, 1E-113) Bovee Park Re-Naming and Bellevue Botanical Garden Update. http://www.bellevuewa.gov/parks_board.htm


5/18 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) Downtown Livability, Human Services Needs Update (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Consent Calendar, Public Hearing on Intracorp Development Agreement and related Land Use Code Agreement, Action on Shoreline Master Program http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm


5/25 MEMORIAL DAY – CITY OFFICES CLOSED

5/26 City Council (6:00 extended study session, Council Conference Room) East Link Project Update, Regional Issues, Multi-Family Tax Exemption, Police Update on Crime Statistics http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

5/26 East Main East Main Station Area Planning CAC (4:00 p.m. 1E-112) Review of public input and various analyses to inform discussion of draft recommendations. http://www.bellevuewa.gov/light-rail-station-areas.htm


Bellevue’s Neighborhood Outreach Office offers a variety of programs and partnerships for neighborhood leaders and active residents. To learn more about citizen involvement opportunities and programs to enhance neighborhoods, call 425-452-6836.