Introducing Bellevue’s new Crime Prevention Detective

We are very happy to welcome Detective Amanda Jensen as our new Residential Crime Prevention Detective. Her enthusiasm and innovative ideas are a welcome addition and we are excited to have her join our Investigations team. She has been with the Bellevue Police Department for seven years, where she has been assigned to patrol, mainly working the night shifts. She has been very active as a member of BPD’s Recruitment Team in addition to her position as a Field Training Officer. She also serves as BPD’s SWAT Liaison for Major Incidents. That position goes hand in hand with her Crime Prevention position since she will be working closely with neighborhoods when our SWAT Team is involved in a significant incident to field questions and allay safety concerns.

Det. Jensen is working very hard to address HOA and neighborhood questions and to assist in providing information to residents on how to start formal Block Watches. If you haven’t heard from her yet, feel free to email her at a new email address she has set up specifically for Crime Prevention issues. That email is: CrimePrevention@bellevuewa.gov. The email is checked by either Det. Jensen or her supervisor M-F. Det. Jensen is developing her contact and resource lists for neighborhoods so feel free to email her at this address with your contact information so she can continue to build her network.

“Lest We Forget”

The Downtown Park War Memorial

A Letter and Appeal from Robert “Bob” Shay, President, Wilburton Community Association

“The World War I Memorial Monument at Bellevue’s Downtown Park should be restored to prominence to honor the commitment made by residents and community leaders 88 years ago to honor the memory of three fallen sons of Bellevue.”

I’m trying to bring back the reverence and respect for this monument and make it a place where people remember all veterans, what they did and continue to do. Currently due to damage repair over the years, it looks unfinished and to keep the promise, it should look finished.

The memorial, a concrete block with a plaque, was built in 1926, in front of Bellevue’s grade school. The monument now stands in the middle of the park. The Parks & Community Services Department maintains the monument, but I would like it to be more prominent.
The memorial at one time featured a flagpole. The plaque bears the names of Victor Freed, Victor Hanson and Oscar Johnson, along with the phrase from a Rudyard Kipling poem “lest we forget.” The Bellevue School District, together with the Bellevue chapter of a national women’s benevolent group, The Minute Women, installed the monument. They also planted three elm trees in the area. Two still stand there; one was damaged in a wind storm and had to be replaced.

With donated labor and materials from local businesses and city approved plans prepared pro-bono by Issaquah landscape architect Richard Vandemark, I have a plan to build a modest circular paved apron around the block to increase its visibility and protect the base. My plans also call for a small bronze sculpture depicting a ceremonially folded military flag with three roses resting on top of the Monument where the old flagpole was.

I have been raising funds to cover the fabrication and installation of the bronze sculpture, which could cost up to $10,000. I have raised about $8,000 thus far.

I am hoping for a burst in donations this fall and winter, with donations from other Community Organizations and sales of Christmas wreaths by the Cascade Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, 100% of all funds donated will go toward the memorial project.

This spring the Veterans of Foreign Wars Lake Washington post, for which I am chaplain, began accepting donations for the project. All direct donation checks should be made payable to: VFW Post 2995, with “WWI Monument project” on the memo line. Mail donations to: Robert Shay, Chaplain - c/o VFW Post 2995, 4330 148th Ave. NE, Redmond, WA 98052.

If you have questions about the memorial project or if your community organization would like a personal presentation, you can contact me directly at rshay@qwest.net or 206-478-0505.”

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Bellevue Essentials
Graduation Celebration

**Thursday, November 6, 6:30pm – 8:00pm**

**Council Chambers, City Hall**

You are invited to celebrate with our graduating class of Bellevue Essentials! Keynote speaker, Stacy Graven, the Executive Director of Meydenbauer Center, will be speaking on “Great Things”. Ms. Graven is a Bellevue native, a graduate of Advance Bellevue (now Leadership Eastside) and serves on the board of several Bellevue community organizations. This year’s Bellevue Essentials class is a dynamic group of 33 community leaders who have spent the past 8 weeks delving into the nuts and bolts of city government. Through Bellevue Essentials, they learned about government process and decision making and took a big step toward future involvement in the community. An hors d’oeuvres reception in their honor will be held on Thursday evening November 6, 6:30 -8:00pm, in the Concourse at City Hall, 450 110th Ave NE, followed by a graduation program at 7pm in the Council Chambers. Speaking on behalf of the class will be Troy Gilliland, an electrical engineer and President of the Norwood Village Homeowners Association, and Anne Pickering Morriseau, a realtor, mother and community activist.
Now is the Time to Clear Leaves from Storm Drains

Fall means rainy days and falling leaves that can clog storm drains and lead to flooding. The City of Bellevue is asking residents to help prevent neighborhood flooding by raking leaves and debris from storm drains in their neighborhood. With over 20,000 public storm drains in the city, crews cannot reach all of them. Residents should clear only drains next to the curb, not those out in the street. If a drain is still clogged after raking, call Bellevue Utilities at 425-452-7840.

Safety tips for rainy weather:

• If you have a life-threatening situation, call 911.
• To reporting flooding at your home or business, hazardous road conditions, water main breaks, or down or damaged stop or yield signs, call the City of Bellevue Utilities 24-hour emergency number at 425-452-7840.
• If there are drainage problems on your property and you would like advice, call Utilities at 425-452-7840.
• To report gas leaks, power outages, or down power lines, call Puget Sound Energy at 1-888-225-5773.
• Remember that during a storm it’s normal for streams to rise and some parking lots and parks to fill with water. But, do not walk or drive through flooded areas, which can be dangerous.

Community Celebrates 20 years of Partnership Between Crossroads Shopping Center and Mini City Hall

What a great party it was! Over 200 people gathered at Center stage at Crossroads on October 22 to celebrate 20 years of partnership between Crossroads Shopping Center and Mini City Hall. Speakers included founders Ron Sher, original shopping center owner and third place visionary; Cheryl Kuhn, former Neighborhood Outreach Manager at the City; and Barb Tuininga, longtime manager of Mini City Hall. Through partner stories and an inspirational client video, people learned of the true impacts Mini City Hall has had on the diverse East Bellevue community.

Following the presentation of a proclamation by Mayor Balducci, attendees were treated to free bites and beverages from nine Crossroads restaurants. Many thanks to Ai Sushi, Crossroads Café, Ebru, Oh India, Starbucks, The French Bakery, Toreros, Tutta Bella, Boba Express and Bamboo Wok!

Following the celebration, Mini City Hall past and present volunteers were recognized for their service at an appreciation event. Thanks to Tutta Bella for the delicious dinner and Vavako Fine Chocolates and Crossroads Flowers for providing recognition gifts.

The event was a wonderful commemoration of a great 20 years of Mini City Hall!
Change up your commute and win! On the Move Bellevue

Commit to change from driving alone to a different mode of travel for at least eight days per month, and you will be entered to win one of twenty-five $25 gift cards. Those who fulfill the Make A Change pledge will later be invited to take the “Maintain The Momentum” survey and will be entered to win another $25 gift card. Drawings occur on a monthly basis.

Through On the Move Bellevue, participants can log their daily travel and find resources for alternative commute options. Launched by the City of Bellevue, King County Metro and the Bellevue Downtown Association, On the Move is an ongoing program, part of the Choose Your Way Bellevue online resource, which promotes alternatives to drive-alone commuting.

To register, learn more about different travel options in and around Bellevue, or subscribe to the newsletter, visit www.OnTheMoveBellevue.org. E-mail your questions to info@OnTheMoveBellevue.org.

Signal Upgrades through City Safety Program Grants

The city’s Transportation Department was awarded two federal City Safety Program grants to enhance pedestrian safety at 43 intersections along 148th Avenue and in the greater Bel-Red and Overlake areas. Some of these intersections will be upgraded to the SCATS system, which allows the signal to adapt to traffic conditions in real-time. Other intersections will receive improved pedestrian signal displays and ADA-compliant push buttons.

Upgrade locations include intersections along 148th Avenue Northeast, Northup Way, 156th Avenue Northeast, Bel-Red Road and Northeast Eighth Street. Construction impacts at each site will be minimal, as most intersections are estimated to take only one working day to complete, and only a portion of the upgrade locations will require lane closures.

Construction is scheduled to begin in late November and will be completed in early 2015. Work near concentrated shopping areas will occur either in November or January to limit impacts to holiday shoppers. Work will take place between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. Police offers will help direct traffic. Please obey officers and use caution when traveling through the work zone.

Questions? Contact Kyle Potuzak, project manager, at 425-452-2027 or kpotuzak@bellevuewa.gov, or Clint Nelsen, construction inspector, at 425-452-6960 or cnelson@bellevuewa.gov.
SAVE THE DATE –
Cultural Conversations

“Arts and Crafts – Traditions and Expression Across Culture”

Tuesday, December 2, 1:00pm – 3:00pm
Crossroads Community Center

As we end the year, we will come together to share our interest in arts and crafts as diverse women who both create and appreciate various art forms including fiber arts, painting, photography, hand crafts, performance, cooking, and gardening. We’ll have a short show-and-tell sharing how we learned the art, cultural traditions, why we create or collect and enjoy some treats of the season.

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 providing an opportunity to enhance knowledge and understanding of different cultural practices and world views. The events are free, refreshments are served and women of all ages, faiths and cultures are welcome to attend. To fully 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.

Enjoy Garden d’Lights 2014

4:30pm – 9:30pm Every Evening Including Holidays (last entry at 9:00pm)
Botanical Gardens

On November 29th, the annual holiday Garden d’Lights show begins. Each evening from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m., thousands of tiny twinkling lights transform the Bellevue Botanical Garden into a winter wonderland. Bring your family, friends and out-of-town guests to see the new Bellevue Botanical Garden Visitor Center and new Garden d’Lights route.

This beloved holiday event is made possible by volunteers who spend thousands of hours planning and creating the spectacular light show. Inspired by plants found in Northwest gardens and from around the world, this year’s display will be an exciting adventure for all ages featuring more than 30 creations including Honey Bear, Charlotte in her web and Willie the Slug.

Tickets are on sale now. The cost is $5; children 10 and under are free. The show runs through January 3. For complete details, including driving, parking and ticket information, visit http://www.gardendlights.org/

Sound Transit’s South Bellevue Segment Design Completion Open House

Thursday, November 6, 5pm – 7pm
Enatai Elementary

Sound Transit will hold the Design Completion open house for the South East Link Segment, which spans from I-90 to SE 4th St and includes South Bellevue Park and Ride station, on Thursday, November 6 from 5-7 at Enatai Elementary (10615 SE 23rd St, Bellevue). Meeting attendees will be able to view the final designs for the South Bellevue segment, South Bellevue Station and Park and Ride, learn about early construction information including closure of the South Bellevue Park and Ride and hear about concurrent City of Bellevue projects in the area.
November 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.)

11/3 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) Operating Budget, Fire Transport Fees, Development Services Fees, Hearing Examiner Recommendation on Belle-Kirk Office Rezone (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Walk Friendly Communities Award, Management Brief on Ratification of the KC Countywide Planning Policies, Management Brief on Snow and Ice Response, Consent Calendar, Public Hearings on relinquishment of surplus Utility easements and street vacation; Procurement Code Amendments, Land Use Code Amendment for Camp and Conference Center District
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

11/4 Human Services Commission (6:30, 1E-113) Topic – to be determined

11/4 East Bellevue Community Council (6:30, Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.) Extension of marijuana regulations and a presentation from WSDOT on future tolling on 405
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC_Homepage.htm

11/4 Arts Commission (4:30, 1E-109) Agenda items include visit from Linda Pawson, executive director of Bellevue Arts Museum, update on East Link Stations’ art designs, and review of arts policies for the Comprehensive Plan.
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/arts_comm.htm

11/5 East Link Permitting CAC (3:00-5:00 p.m., 1E-113)

11/6 Open House (5:00–7:00 p.m., Enatai Elementary 10615 SE 23rd St.) Sound Transit’s South Bellevue Segment Design Completion Open House, including S. Bellevue P&R Station

11/6 Environmental Services Commission (6:30, 1E-113) Public Hearing on Proposed 2015-16 Utilities Budget & Rates
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/environ_serv_comm.htm

11/6 Bellevue Network on Aging (8:30-10:30 a.m., 1E-120) Updates from Attorney General Bob Ferguson, Committee Reports
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/network_on_aging.htm

11/10 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) Issaquah and Renton School District Impact Fee Proposals, Planning Commission Recommendations on Recreational Marijuana Regulations and Land Use Code Amendments, Budget Review (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers)
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

11/11 Veteran’s Day – City Offices Closed

11/12 Planning Commission (6:30, 1E-113) Annual Comprehensive Plan amendments (Montview Place) – potential public hearing, Comprehensive Plan Update, Review of initial drafts
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm

11/13 Parks & Community Services Board (6:00, 1E-112)
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/parks_board.htm

11/13 Transportation Commission (6:30, 1E-113) Bellevue Diversity Initiative, 116th Avenue NE, Bike Lanes, Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan, Transportation Facilities Plan (2016-2027)
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/trans_comm.htm

11/13 Special Events Committee (8:30 -10:30 a.m. City Hall, 1E-118)
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/special_events_committee.htm

11/17 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) Budget Review (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Management Brief on FileLocal, Management Brief on ILA for “for hire” Vehicles, Consent Calendar, Final Public Hearing on Budget, Action on Belle-Kirk Office Rezone, Action on Issaquah and Renton School District Impact Fee Proposals, Land Use Code Amendments
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

11/18 Library Commission (5:00 p.m. Newport Way Library 14250 S.E. Newport Way Bellevue, WA 98006)
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/library_board.htm

11/18 Human Services Commission (6:30, 1E-113) COB demographic update

11/18 East Main CAC (4:00 1E-112) Topics - review of the feedback from the Oct. 28th open house, and initial discussion on two topics: 1) potential land use changes east of 112th and 2) “hide-and-ride” parking in the neighborhood.
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/light-rail-station-areas.htm

11/19 East Link Permitting CAC (3:00-5:00 p.m., 1E-113)

11/20 Environmental Services Commission (6:30, 1E-113) Utilities Budget and Rate Recommendation
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/environ_serv_comm.htm

11/24 City Council (6:00 extended study session, Council Conference Room) Budget Review, East Link Monthly Update, Regional Issues
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.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.