

# City of Wood Village January 2013

## The Village News

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Fax (503) 669-8723 • [city@ci.wood-village.or.us](mailto:city@ci.wood-village.or.us) • [www.ci.wood-village.or.us](http://www.ci.wood-village.or.us)

# 2012: YEAR IN REVIEW

Mayor Patricia Smith



The end of 2012 marks the end of my first term as the Mayor of Wood Village, time flies when you're having fun and I have to say I am. In Wood Village, the Mayor is selected by the City Council to serve a two year term, and it has been my honor to serve Wood Village for this term. It is also my honor to serve with four good men, men who value honesty and public service. Men who genuinely like and respect each other and the community they serve. We don't always agree, but we always try to make the best decisions for the citizens of our city.

These great volunteers join with a staff of fifteen full time employees, citizen volunteers and contracts with Multnomah County Sheriff's Office for law enforcement, Gresham Fire for fire services, and Building Codes Consultancy for building services to make Wood Village tick.

We had a super 2012. From wonderful City sponsored events to making fundamental changes in how we finance and care for our roads and storm water system, Wood Village improved. In some of the accomplishments and highlights for the year:

### 1. PARK IMPROVEMENTS

🍁 A Gazebo was constructed in Donald L. Robertson City Park. We will have a formal dedication of the structure to former Mayor Dave Fuller in the springtime. The gazebo was constructed with labor donated by the West Columbia Gorge Rotary Club along with members of the City Staff and City Council that volunteered to help.

🍁 Trails in the park were improved and I believe our park is one of the most beautiful in East County. If you haven't walked in the park yet, it is a calming and peaceful experience.

🍁 Playground area ADA compliance was completed. Our playground is safe, clean and full of children most non-rainy days.



- ❖ “Poo”lution solution stations were added to the Park to assist animal owners in cleaning up after their pets and smoking was prohibited in the Park and on public property to eliminate the ugly cigarette butts carelessly tossed on the ground.
- ❖ A total of 29 deciduous trees were planted on City properties to increase the number and diversity of trees in the City. We are “Wood” Village, after all.



## 2. UTILITY CHANGES AND ROADWAYS

- ❖ Water meters were replaced to more accurately measure usage so that bills are calculated precisely and to increase meter reading efficiency.
- ❖ A Citizen Advisory Committee assisted in the development of a Transportation and Storm Water Utility to maintain our roadways and storm water systems.
- ❖ The City received two grant awards to add sidewalks and bike lanes on Arata Road to increase safety for pedestrians, bicyclists and vehicles. Construction is anticipated to occur in 2014.
- ❖ Crack sealing and asphalt repair work was completed in the original village area as well as on 236<sup>th</sup> and 237<sup>th</sup> Avenues.
- ❖ This East Metro Connections Plan was a difficult compromise, but with the help of Fairview and Troutdale, we were able to make a bargain to the benefit of all the small cities.
- ❖ The Transportation System Plan for Wood Village was updated. We have identified the projects that will get attention when grants and funding becomes available.
- ❖ The Storm Water Management Plan was updated and the required water quality permits renewed.





3. NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS



- ★ The City received its 9<sup>th</sup> Comprehensive Annual Financial Report Award. Our finances are in excellent shape and we work to be very frugal in this economy. Due to the staff’s hard work, we are in a much better position than most cities today.
- ★ The City received its 23<sup>rd</sup> Gold Safety Award for no lost time accidents. It is incredible how much time has gone by with no loss of work accidents reported. Good job, team!
- ★ The Village News was improved. Our office staff works hard on producing an informative and very colorful paper to inform people of happenings in our town.



4. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- ⊕ Conditional use zoning amendments authorizations were approved for Allwood Recyclers and the Wood Village Baptist Church addition. We look at possible ways we can assist businesses achieve their goals.
- ⊕ Wood Village welcomes Pressure Safe, LLC, Joy Teriyaki, Cross Fit Fitness Center, Famous Dave’s BBQ, and Allwood Recyclers. We have a “meet or beat” concept when it comes to adapting regulations for new businesses. We get things done faster than many larger cities can, and businesses value that.
- ⊕ I was disappointed to see the Wood Village Casino proposal fail. The jobs that it would have brought to East County and the overflow to local businesses would have been enormous.

## 5. CITY EVENTS

☀️ We hosted about 2500 people, mostly children, during the annual Easter Egg Hunt and put thousands of eggs out in the field in the park. We gave out candy and prizes to everyone. The special needs hunt for handicapped children is very special to us and we are working on expanding that portion of the hunt. Volunteers for this event make this all run smoothly. Wal-Mart was the major sponsor of this event.



☀️ The City Nite Out is full of games for children, free food and drinks, door prizes, and loud noises. The Multnomah County Sheriff Office's and the Wood Village Baptist Church, along with the City, work to



make this a most successful 'Nite Out'. There are police dogs, helicopters, field demonstrations, and music. Truly a fun filled family event.

☀️ The Citizen Police Academy should be attended by everyone who has wondered what police officers really do. During the academy, different branches of the Sheriff's department are presented in such a way that you can see the high amount of dedication that it takes to be a Deputy. After you take the course, you understand a little

more about how complex a job it really is. From the river boat ride to the prison tour, this is a real education for everybody. We are working on trying to get a teen academy going for the young people of the community.

☀️ Our tree at this year's Tree Lighting Ceremony was most beautiful. It was fully 5 feet taller than Portland's and much prettier. Plus it is alive! The tree was full of lights donated by Wal-Mart and the star on top is 5 feet tall. It made me happy to see it when I drove by. Merry Christmas!

We could not do the events we do without the generous contributions of money, goods, and volunteers from our City businesses and the Church. Every time we have an event, our wonderful businesses ask what they can do or what they can give for that event. We try to publish the names of all who donate to the city so that everyone can see who contributes to our success. We also recognize and honor our major contributors and volunteers during the annual Wood Village Appreciation Dinner. This year's dinner was another wonderful event and our thanks to Morash Meats, the family business that owns Pressure Safe, LLC, for generously supplying the main course entries for the Appreciation Dinner. We have a special town, and the contributions of our special sponsors cannot be recognized enough, so our very special thanks to those local businesses that donate throughout the year to make Wood Village events happen.

This last year saw major contributors to our City retire from service including Budget & Parks Committee member Betty Gerla, Public Works Director Randy Jones, and Utility Workers Steve Lehl and Shayne Bowker. While we will miss these individuals and their contributions to the City, we look forward to

working with our new staff members. Mark Gunter has been hired as the Public Works Director, and Renee Gierman, Fred Ramirez, Randy Lauer and Alex Sykes have all joined the City Public Works Department in this last year.

I have strengthened a good working relationship with the Mayors of Troutdale and Fairview over the past two years. I truly appreciated them while working on the East Metro Connection Plan. It just shows you how much can be accomplished when you work toward a common goal. The reconstruction of 238<sup>th</sup> through Wood Village will be right where it is, with few or no right of way changes, and increased safety with wider lanes and sidewalks. There will also be a vacation of the right of way that runs past our park, so there can be no future threat of a freeway down that hill. Multnomah County Commissioner Diane McKeel was a strong ally in this plan. Our community can look forward to roads that work and in which we have a share of the regional traffic without being home to some major new transportation artery. This is historic work, with the first real agreement between the jurisdictions on a transportation plan in decades.

I love this city, the volunteers that help make it work, the businesses that support us, and our employees. We all work together to make this the greatest City in East County. I am proud to have been your Mayor for the last year, and I am looking forward to the years ahead with a great group of City Councilors that were reelected this year. We have a bright future ahead! I hope that everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



*Thank you all!*



Brush Up Wood Village has begun! This home beautification program was started to help lower income homeowners repaint the exterior of their home. This year's program is aimed at improving homes in the Original Village for those residents that are lower income, and over

60 years of age or disabled. Application packets are available on the City's website and at City Hall. All applications must be received by 4:30pm Friday, March 29th. One or two homes will be selected by the City Council in April, with the paint work being completed in May or June.

We are also in need of volunteers to help paint and prep the selected homes. If you are interested in volunteering, please fill out the volunteer interest form on the City's website and

**Let's Brush Up Wood Village!**

## WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEERS!

Herb Hill and Charles Crowder were appointed to the Parks and Recreation Commission by the City Council at their meeting on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Herb has been a resident of Wood Village for 31 years and applied to the Commission in order to give something back to the Donald L. Robertson Park which has given him, his wife, and their dog years of pleasure. Charles has been a resident since 2002 and wanted to join because he feels everyone has a duty to give back to their community. The park has also provided countless hours of enjoyment to his family as well. There is still one remaining opening on the Parks and Recreation Commission, as well as on the Budget Committee. Please view our webpage or stop by City Hall to learn more about these great volunteer opportunities. Again, welcome Herb and Charles!!

## WOOD VILLAGE CLEANUP DAY

Every May residents get ready for the annual cleanup day by setting out unwanted items along the curb for Waste Management or other bargain hunters to take. This year will be different

because a curbside pickup event will not occur in 2013. Instead, residents will be able to drop off their unwanted and hard to dispose of items at a collection site in the City. Many of the same items that were picked up curbside will still be allowed at the drop off site. Like previous years, hazardous items, construction material, and electronic items will not be accepted. The event is scheduled for May 18<sup>th</sup>, and will be open to all residents of the City. The extra garbage bag day will still occur as usual in May. The City encourages all residents to properly dispose of all items throughout the year by utilizing Waste Management, or by dropping off items at an approved waste/recycling site. Not only will this save you time on cleanup day, but the outdoor accumulation of solid waste and discarded items on your property is prohibited. Please visit our webpage to find out where you can discard items throughout the year, and look for more information on the 2013 cleanup day in an upcoming newsletter.



## Smartphone Applications for Disaster Preparedness

Technology can help you find a restaurant, locate a parking spot, and even get you a date. But how can mobile apps impact the more crucial aspects of a person's life, like safety and well-being? While apps can't replace your doctor or local police, there are many that can make a major difference in an emergency. Take your Smartphone to the next level and make it you're own personnel disaster preparedness First Aid Kit. Here is a variety of free Smartphone apps that can help warn you of impending crises or help you better handle them when they happen. Consider adding these to your digital first-aid kit.



### First Aid by American Red Cross

Accidents happen. The official American Red Cross First Aid app puts expert advice for everyday

emergencies in your hand. Get the app and be prepared for what life brings. With videos, interactive quizzes and simple step-by-step advice it's never been easier to know first aid.

OS: Apple and Droid

Cost: Free

## Earthquake by American Red Cross

Be ready for an earthquake with Earthquake by American Red Cross. Get notified when an earthquake occurs, prepare your family and home, find help and let others know you are safe even if the power is out – a must have for anyone who lives in an earthquake-prone area or has loved ones who do.



**OS:** Apple and Droid      **Cost:** Free

## Poison Center Help

This application will connect users with their local poison center with just the click of a button. By clicking on the Poison Help logo, users will have free, confidential access to a medical expert who can answer questions about poisons or help users treat a poison exposure. During an emergency, you don't need to scramble to find the number for your poison center. Be ready!



Users will also receive tips on how to prevent a poisoning. Poison centers are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year, and are free and confidential. Don't guess! Be sure!

**OS:** Apple      **Cost:** Free

## American Red Cross: Shelter View

When disaster strikes know when and where shelters have been opened to provide assistance. Information is updated at least daily, and more often during disasters, including location, capacity, current number of shelter residents, and the date and time of the last update for each activated shelter.



**OS:** Apple      **Cost:** Free

## Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

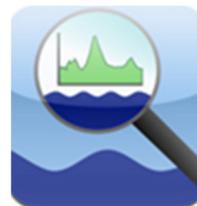
The FEMA App contains preparedness information for different types of disasters, an interactive checklist for emergency kits, a section to plan emergency meeting locations, information on how to stay safe and recover after a disaster, a map with FEMA Disaster Recovery Center locations (one-stop centers where disaster survivors can access key relief services) and Shelters, general ways the public can get involved before and after a disaster, and the FEMA blog.



**OS:** Apple and Droid      **Cost:** Free

## FloodWatch

By leveraging data from the US Geological Survey and National Weather Service, Flood Watch presents the most recent and historical



river heights, precipitation totals, and flood stage data. Graphs are available to help you visualize the rise and fall of the river.

**OS:** Apple      **Cost:** Free

## TsunamiEvac-NW

TsunamiEvac-NW provides you an at-a-glance view of where the tsunami hazard zones are along the Oregon and Washington coast, and allows you to map whether your home, work, school, etc. is located in a tsunami evacuation zone or not. To help you develop and plan your own evacuation routes, TsunamiEvac-NW enables you to save your current position or points of interest via GPS or address look-up.



**OS:** Apple and Droid      **Cost:** Free

### Wildfires by American Red Cross

Be ready for a wildfire with Wildfire by the American Red Cross. Get notified about active wildfires, as well as fire weather warnings, prepare your family, home and pets, let loved ones know that you are safe even if the power is out – a must have for anyone who lives in an area that is susceptible to wildfires or has loved ones that do.



OS: Apple and Droid

Cost: Free

### ReUnite

ReUnite™ is an app for uploading missing and found person information for post-disaster family reunification by providing structured information to the National Library of Medicine’s people locator. The app enables the user to report and search for missing / found people reported to the People Locator (PL) Web site after a disaster.



OS: Apple

Cost: Free

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony

For the second year in a row, City Hall was transformed into a winter wonderland. On November 30<sup>th</sup> the lights to an 85’ tree, as well as several smaller street trees were turned on to celebrate the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony. Not only were there spectacular lights, but the Reynolds High School Expressions Choir sang songs of the season until Santa arrived on a Fire Engine. Wal-Mart was on hand passing out candy canes, and Kohl’s gave out books to the children. This event would not have been possible without the help of Wal-Mart who donated thousands of lights, Kohl’s who once again donated children’s books, Gresham Fire who brought Santa, and the Reynolds High School Expressions Choir. We also want to give a special thank you to Arbor Culture NW who hung all the lights. The lights were on through December, and we hope you, your family and guests were able to enjoy them.



### PLANTING FOR THE FUTURE!

It was a cold and windy morning on November 15<sup>th</sup>, but that did not stop nine students from Arata Creek School from planting 14 assorted trees at one of the City’s reservoir sites. The trees ranged in height from 12 to 18 feet, and weighed well over 100 pounds each. This project is part of a larger effort to increase the number and diversity of trees in the City. The roughly one acre reservoir site was selected because of the lack of existing trees. Neighbors of the site will be able to enjoy watching these trees grow and beautify the area while improving the habitat for wildlife. We would

like to thank the students at Arata Creek School who participated, and the City's Engineering Technician Scott Sloan for designing the layout and assisting with the planting. The City is in the planning stages of planting additional trees at the Donald L. Robertson Park with the idea of starting an arboretum. Look for more information on that project this spring.

### CITIZEN'S POLICE ACADEMY

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, over 20 residents graduated from the Citizen's Police Academy program. This annual program which started in 2005 provides residents with a working knowledge of the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office.



Activities in the program include a SWAT demonstration, tours of the jail and training facility, a river boat ride-along, shoot-don't shoot simulation, and several other classes during the 11 week course. The academy provides an opportunity for community involvement, and fosters a closer working relationship between residents and deputies. Even though public safety certification is not part of the academy, we have seen record enrollment over the past several years. We would like to thank the Multnomah County Sheriff's

Office, Sheriff Daniel Staton, Chief Deputy Jason Gates, and Sgt. James Eriksen for their work and support of the academy. If you missed the program last year, look for sign up information this spring.



### Wood Village Elects City Council Members

The City of Wood Village has a five member City Council. The elections for Council positions occur every two years, with Councilors on rotating terms. The November election has re-elected Patricia Smith along with Tim Clark to four year terms on the City Council. Council member T. Scott Harden had been appointed in 2011, and ran for election in November. He was also elected for a four year term beginning in January of 2013.

Patricia Smith, Council Position 2, is completing a two year term as Mayor. She has served on the Wood Village City Council for eight years, with the last two of the years as our Mayor. Tim Clark has served on the Council for four years and will begin his second term in January. Scott Harden has served on the Council since June of 2011 as the appointment to replace former Mayor Dave Fuller, and will begin his first elected term in January.

The formal, certified results of the election are as follows:

Council Position No. 2		
Patricia A. Smith		625 votes
Council Position No. 3		
T. Scott Harden		577 votes
Council Position No. 5		
Timothy S. Clark		580 votes

Our City has a great City Council. With all three incumbents returning to the Council, we can all know that Wood Village will be well served.

### Graffiti Kits

The cold, wind and rain have returned to Wood Village, but it is not just rainwater that has been spotted along the streets of the City. There has been an increase in graffiti these past few weeks especially near the freeway. While staff does their best to remove graffiti in a timely manner, we still need your help. The City has created an online form to report graffiti, and we still offer the no-cost graffiti removal kits for people to

check out. Please view our webpage or stop by City Hall for more information. Together we can make Wood Village a beautiful place that we are all proud to call home.

### Wood Village Rejects Casino Proposal; Fails Statewide

The proposal to site a privately owned and taxable casino in Wood Village was defeated by our City voters by a margin of 111 votes, with 451 “Yes” votes and 562 “No” votes. Even should the measure have passed in Wood Village, the overwhelming defeat statewide would have prohibited a casino in Wood Village.



The Multnomah Greyhound Park property (site proposed for the casino) was held under option

to purchase by the organizers of the casino bid. Now that the effort has been defeated, the future of the property will become a major question for our future.

The Multnomah Greyhound Park property is one of the largest parcels in our town. We have to work collectively with the property owner to make sure this property is a major productive part of our future.

Our City Council will be discussing the status of the Wood Village Town Center and the future for both of these properties at their retreat in February of this year. If you have thoughts or concerns, please contact one of the elected officials, or contact Bill Peterson, City Administrator, at 503-489-6856 to share your ideas.

## NEWS RELEASE

### Wood Village Halsey Street project re-scheduled for 2013

Release: November 16, 2012

A Multnomah County street improvement project on NE Halsey Street in Wood Village has been rescheduled to begin in spring 2013. The improvements between NE Birch Avenue and NE 244<sup>th</sup> Avenue were previously scheduled for fall 2012. The work has been rescheduled to reduce impacts to the public caused by winter weather that can delay construction.

The street improvements will include:

- Constructing sidewalks and curbs on both sides of the street
- Building out three traffic lanes (including a center left turn lane) and parallel parking on both sides
- Adding bike lanes
- Constructing retaining walls on the north side of the street

The project will complete improvements that were added in 2009 and 2010.

Dirt & Aggregate Interchange of Fairview will be the contractor for the \$474,000 project, which is funded by Multnomah County.

Multnomah County maintains this section of NE Halsey Street and more than 300 miles of roads and bridges. For more information, visit [www.multco.us/roads](http://www.multco.us/roads) or contact: Mike Pullen, Communications Office, 503-209-4111, [mike.j.pullen@multco.us](mailto:mike.j.pullen@multco.us).

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# Multnomah County Sheriff's Office



# Wood Village Theft



This information is provided to educate the community and assist citizens in helping the sheriff's office respond to criminal investigations involving property crime.

## Key Characteristics of Criminal Activity:

- More likely working in pairs
- Will look inside parked vehicles
- Will park suspicious vehicles in dark areas
- Will ride bicycles with no lights on or reflective gear.
- May carry back packs and wear dark clothing
- May climb over fences from neighboring communities
- One suspect may stand in the road way as a "look out" while the other looks into vehicles

## Public Response Plan:

- Do not contact the suspects
- For non-emergency issues call **503-823-3333**
- For emergencies call **911**
- Write down description of suspect, amount of suspects, description of vehicle, direction of travel, license plate and inform the operator with specific information
- Write down what the suspects were doing and time frames
- If you notice an ongoing issue place outside flood lights to light up dark areas on your property

Multnomah County Sheriff's Office

### Our Mission

Our commitment is to provide quality, cost-effective prevention, intervention and detention services to the communities of Multnomah County. We will improve the quality of life by reducing crime and the fear of crime through innovation, partnerships and team work.

Contact Sgt. Tim Lichatowich (503-251-2420) with any questions

CITY OF WOOD VILLAGE  
2055 NE 238<sup>TH</sup> DRIVE  
WOOD VILLAGE, OR 97060-1095

PAID BY STANDARD MAIL  
PERMIT #75  
WOOD VILLAGE  
97060

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Parks Commission and Budget Committee**  
Call 503-667-6211 for more information

### THE VILLAGE NEWS ♦ JANUARY 2013

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#### City Council Meetings:

Jan 8<sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM  
Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> 6:00 PM

#### Planning Commission:

See Website

#### City Services:

##### Wood Village City Hall

**Water & Sewer** 503-667-6211  
**Building Permits** 503-667-6211

##### Other Services:

**Waste Management** 503-249-8078  
**Frontier** 800-921-8101  
**PGE** 503-228-6322  
**Power outages** 503-464-7777  
**Streetlight outages** 503-736-5710  
**NW Natural** 503-226-4212  
**Abandoned Vehicles** 503-823-3333  
**DEQ Burning Info** 503-618-3083

#### Multnomah County Sheriff:

**Non-Emergency** 503-823-3333  
**Emergencies** 911

#### Gresham Fire Department:

**General Info** 503-618-2355  
**Emergencies** 911

#### Multnomah County

**Animal Control** 503-248-3066  
**Reynolds School District** 503-661-7200  
**East Metro Mediation** 503-618-3247

#### Multnomah County Commissioners:

**Jeff Cogan, County Chair** 503 988-3308  
**Diane McKeel, District 4** 503 988-5213

#### 25% RETIRED RATE DISCOUNT:

If everyone living in your household is retired, and you are directly billed by the city, you may be eligible for the discounted base sewer and water rate fees. For more detailed information and to acquire the application, please see the City's website or call 503-667-6211.

**Mayor Patricia Smith ♦ President Mark Clark ♦ Stanley Dirks ♦ Timothy Clark ♦ Scott Harden**

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