**Mark Your Calendar!**

- **Park Board Meeting Monday, April 13, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.**
- **Historic Preservation Meeting Monday, April 13, 2015 at 5:30 pm**
- **City Council meeting Tuesday, April 14 & 28, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. ~ Council Chambers**
- **Planning Commission Meeting Thursday April 9, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.** We have an opening on the Planning Commission—please contact City Clerk for information.

**Agendas for all meetings are available on our website. And for more details on upcoming events, please check the calendar on our website:**

www.cityofcentralia.com

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There is little chance that meteorologists can solve the mysteries of weather until they gain an understanding of the mutual attraction of rain and weekends.”

~Arnot Sheppard

What a fantastic spring we are having so far. Have you taken the opportunity to go to Borst Park on a sunny weekend or during a week day around 3-6 pm. Borst Park is full of people and cars!! The economic engine is starting early this year. With this dry spring we are seeing people walking on the trails all day long. People coming and eating lunch or have a picnic enjoying the environment. We see A LOT of people visiting our community to attend baseball, softball, and soccer games and also attending track and field meets. This spring, with the addition of the NW Sports Hub we have experienced a new wrinkle in Borst Park we actually had parking problems in March. The NW Sports Hub is doing exactly what it was planned to do….bring people into the community. We have seen a big uptick of people going to the outlet stores, shopping at our retail stores, and eating at the restaurants.

It is wonderful to see all those visitors coming into the community!! This last weekend Little League held their opening ceremonies with a grand kickoff party—they packed the park. Over the last winter we teamed up with Little League to create improve the Little League #3 field in preparation of moving their T-ball games to the field. The goal was to create a location where Little League parents and family members could come and watch all of the three fields without getting in their car and driving. In the past, parents were going between Riverside and Borst Park to watch games.

We want to make sure that people know what is happening in the community. Please take the time to view the City event calendar on our website at www.cityofcentralia.com. Please also view the calendar of all the sporting activities in the Borst Park at www.centraliaathleticcomplex.com. To view the event held at the NW Sports Hub you can go to www.NWsportshub.com.

This is the busiest time of year for our three full-time staff members. On weekends we will have part-time, seasonal staff working the tournaments and as school winds down you will see additional staff working. Right now though, we will be preparing for visitors every weekend and will be doing our very best to dodge the spring rain drops.
The plans for a new parking lot for the college is ready to begin construction soon. It will be located on the corner of Centralia College Blvd and S Ash. Besides a parking lot there will be a nice bridge like the one over China Creek near SW Washington Ave.

The college will also be remodeling the student services building and a couple of smaller jobs that you will see as you tour the college campus.

Welcome to Old Hwy 99 Bar and Grill now open after an extensive remodel and addition at 1326 Harrison. The hamburgers are good and that is my professional opinion.

Welcome also to a new Building Material Distribution warehouse located in The port of Centralia. As spring hits us full force a lot of people are asking about reroofing their homes. If you plan on reroofing your home the edges of the plywood sheathing are the most vulnerable part of your new roof over time, the code requires that you protect the edges. To help you visualize what is needed see attached detail and feel free to call and talk to me about any of your building projects.
WHAT'S NEW AT PARKS?

Photo above shows Little League Field 3 improvements (new dugouts and chain-link fence.)

New sidewalk connecting existing sidewalk with new trail by Little League field.

Jeff LeDuc, Parks and Mike Sullivan, Dan Etter and Dennis Bennett from the Street Department worked to complete set-up and the pour of the concrete for the new sidewalk. Thanks, guys!

New signage for Borst Park. Long-awaited signs are being installed!

Arboretum—beautiful even in the rain...
Recreation Division happenings for March:

March came in like a lamb for the start of the baseball and softball practice season at the beginning of the month. Centralia High School and Centralia College baseball and softball programs all had their home openers in March, so the season is underway.

The annual Lady Tigers Fastpitch Fundamentals clinic was held on March 7, with 39 players participating. This program was led by Centralia High School softball players and coaching staff.

Thirty youngsters donned the green and braved the rainy weather to participate in the annual Shamrock Run for kids on Saturday, March 14. Following the run through Borst Park, runners were awarded medallions and enjoyed green cookies and hot chocolate.

Centralia was awarded the Washington ASA 12 & Under State tournament for 2016 at the spring state meeting on Saturday, March 21. The bid date was moved up from next fall to this spring, so we now know we will host this tournament in both 2015 and 2016.

Upcoming events in April include practice field reservations for slowpitch, registration for the men’s Twin Cities Softball league, and the start of the Centralia Girls Softball Association (Rec league) season. Our first tournament event, Just Fun and Games scheduled for April 4 was cancelled due to wet field conditions.

Planning Division Report ~ Tammy Baraconi

Boundary Line Adjustments
1225 Ham Hill Rd: The applicant is purchasing 31,000 square feet from an adjoining parcel. It is going through staff review.

Critical Areas Review
None at this time.

Planned Unit Development
Parkins Landing: 1500 N. Pearl. The project has received recommendations from the Site Plan Review Committee and the Planning Commission.

Joppish Road: Shannon/Would-a 4 lot short plat. The plat has received preliminary approval.

Site Plan Review
Johnson Rd: The applicant is proposing two 40,000 sq. ft. buildings to be built in two phases. A SEPA decision has been issued and site plan review is approved.

Reynolds Rd: The City is installing a multi-jurisdictional decant station at the existing Street Department. A SEPA has been issued and site plan review has been approved.

1905 Johnson Rd: The applicant is proposing a 2000 sq. ft. commercial building. The project has received site plan approval.

Zoning Variance
None at this time.

Substantial Shoreline Development Permit
None at this time.

Subdivision
None at this time.

Street Vacation
None at this time.

Non-Permit Related Projects
Shoreline Master Plan update. We are currently at the beginning of a three year process that will include the State and Lewis County to update Centralia’s outdated shoreline master plan.

Annual updates to the Comprehensive Plan have begun.

- The Planning Commission is working on creating a new zoning designation for the Mellen Street area, a Public Participation Plan and a new zoning designation for environmentally sensitive lands. There are six (6) rezone requests being processed for the Comprehensive Plan update.

Borst Homestead
We’re Back!
Join us for the first Open House of 2015!
Saturday, April 11, 2015
from 1:30—3:30 pm

Historic Preservation

The Historic Preservation Commission will hold its next regular meeting on April 13th at 5:30PM in the City Council Chambers. The public is invited to attend.

The Commission will be working on a fundraising efforts for the Fort Borst restoration.