

# City Vision



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*Your information link to the Camas Community*



## What's in a Tin Can?

■ *To this author, antique containers and labels mean more than beans*

You may have seen him on Antiques Road Show. Here's your chance to see him in person at the Camas Public Library. Doug Rhoades, author and life-long treasure-hunter, will present a lively program highlighting his discovery of a cache of tin cans with original labels dating back to the 1870's. This collection was confirmed on Antiques Roadshow in 2002 as a "rare, beautiful, and unusual collection."

This author of the book "Labels, Leadville and Lore, History from a Tin Can" will be appearing Tuesday, March 11, 7-8:30 p.m. at a free event in the library's community room. This evening presentation and two others listed on page 2 are funded by the Friends and Foundation of the Camas Library.

## Camas City Council Approves Parks, Recreation and Open Space

From planning future parks to the completion of a newly revised 20-year comprehensive plan, there is some exciting news to report from the Camas Parks and Recreation department.

### Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan

Following months of work, public input and revisions, the proposed Camas Parks, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan update has been completed.

The comprehensive plan is a 20-year planning document that provides an outline for fulfilling the department's mission statement to "provide recreation and park services to enhance the quality of life and nurture the health and well being of our citizens and environment."

The comprehensive plan shows Camas' long-term vision for existing and future trails, and how they link together to form connected walking and cycling routes. A plan for linking trails is crucial because it gives city staff direction to

work with developers as new developments are proposed and planned. Highlights of the plan include 15 future neighborhood parks and 12 "special use" areas.

The 2007 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan, which was officially approved by the Camas City Council Dec. 3, can be viewed on the City's Web site at [www.ci.camass.wa.us/parks](http://www.ci.camass.wa.us/parks)

As for individual parks, here's an update:

### Prune Hill Sports Park

The popular Prune Hill Sports Park, located at Northwest 16th Avenue and Brady Road, is currently in the midst of several improvements.

The project, referred to as "phase three" of the 8.94-acre park, will include a new baseball field and permanent restroom facilities. These amenities are in addition to the already existing soccer field, play structure, trail open space and parking area.

The project will go out to bid in 2008, with completion expected by the end of that year.

### Ostenson Canyon Park

Design work is just beginning on the future Ostenson Canyon Park, located near Dorothy Fox Park at Northeast Sierra Street and 23rd Avenue. The site, which includes more than 10 acres, has sweeping views of the Columbia River Valley. In an effort to gather citizen opinion and input on potential design elements, a committee will be formed in early 2008.

### Ash Creek Park

With the help of a citizen committee, design work is nearing completion on the 9.5-acre Ash Creek Neighborhood Park, which is adjacent to Northwest Maryland Street, near the Thomas Estates subdivision.

The park will offer play equipment, a basketball hoop, a picnic shelter, a loop trail, restrooms and an open area for active recreation.

Following the completion of the permitting process in 2008, the site will undergo some minor improvements, with full construction scheduled for 2009.



### Two Tuesday library programs offer tips for spring gardens

Vern Nelson of the Oregonian will present a hands-on program, *Stick and Bud Grafting for Fruit Trees*, Feb. 12 at the Camas Public Library. Because Vern will be bringing materials we will need attendees to pre-register for this program to be held from 7-8:30 p.m.

Vern Nelson will return for another hands-on program, *Seed Starting*, Feb. 26 from 7-8:30 p.m. Again, pre-registration is required. Come in to the library or call 834-4692 for information.

### Page Turners for kids

Camas Public Library offers a book discussion group for tweens and their parents! How it works: you both borrow a special copy of the book from the library before the meeting. You both read the book. You both come to the meeting, and then keep your copy of the book for good, free! Call 834-4692 for more info.

### Try ChocoLOT

Here's a party of chocolate proportions! All



teens are invited to celebrate the wonderful food that is chocolate with chocolate games, chocolate trivia, chocolate dipping, chocolate tasting, chocolate snacks, watching a chocolate movie, and of course, CHOCOLATE! Thursday, Feb. 7, at 3 pm at the library.

### X-Games in the science lab

Kids, do you have an interest in science? Do you like finding out how goo is made, or what baking soda can do? Come to this four-part workshop at the library and do fun experiments and pro-



### Snapshots from the city scrapbook

### Annual awards go to folks who serve

The City of Camas held its annual Employee Recognition Awards ceremony in December. The program acknowledges employees who demonstrate the important qualities of leadership, professionalism, dedication, innovation and excellent public service.

Named the 2007 Employee of the Year was Public Works Director Monte Brachmann, who celebrated 35 years with the City in November. In announcing the award, Mayor Paul Dennis noted "Monte has been the foundation of the City for 35 years and a model employee. His dedication to our community's well being is recognized and one of the many reasons why Monte is so deserving of this honor." The Mayor also presented a special award to City

Administrator Lloyd Halverson for his never-ending drive and desire to secure programs and funding for projects essential to the growth and the future of the City of Camas.

In addition, several employees were recognized for their contributions to the City in 2007. Specific awards are listed in the column to the left. In the accompanying photo, Monte Brachmann and Carmen Salamanca appear in front. Behind them, left to right, are Jeanette Kreighbaum, Leisha Copsey, Kristin Berquist, Lloyd Halverson and Mark Warner. Another special award was bestowed on the City's sanitation crew. Pictured at right, holding a replica truck with a brass plate signifying the Outstanding Crew award, are Crew Chief Cal Hittle and sanitation workers Garry Reed, Kevin Kunkel and Mike Clapp.



**Inspirational award**

Senior Permit Technician Jeanette Kreighbaum

**Valor award**

Library Page Nancy Renner

**Citizenship award**

Administrative Assistant Kristin Berquist

**Outstanding Customer Service award**

Firefighter/Paramedics Mark Widlund and Steve Pozsgai

**Power of Humor award**

Financial Assistant Carmen Salamanca

**Dollars and Sense award**

Financial Assistant Mark Warner

**Outstanding Rookie award**

Executive Assistant Leisha Copsey

jects! For kids in 3rd-5th grades. Registration is required. Wednesdays Feb. 6, 13, 20, and 27 from 4-5 pm. To sign up, call **834-4692**.

### Calling All HOA Officers

The City of Camas is updating our data base list of officers for homeowner associations. When homeowner associations are initially formed, the City is provided a list of officers but when officers change or move on, the City is not always notified of those changes. This information is important so that homeowner

associations can be notified of projects or other important notices that affect their areas. If you are an officer of a homeowner association or know who they are for your neighborhood, please mail a current list of officers to Ronda Syverson, City of Camas, P.O. Box 1055, Camas, WA 98607. Ronda can also be reached via e-mail at [rsyverson@ci.camas.wa.us](mailto:rsyverson@ci.camas.wa.us), by phone at **817-1561** extension **4256**, or by fax, **834-1535**.

Your help in collecting this information is greatly appreciated.



Volunteers gathered at Fire Station 42 on the Wednesday before Christmas to fill food and toy boxes from piles of donations. Helping out were Camas Fire Department employees, East County Fire and Rescue volunteers, friends and family members.

## Area Families Benefit from CAROL Donations

This holiday season volunteers with the C.A.R.O.L. Program (Christmas Activities Relief Organization Limited), with help from the Camas Fire Department and East County Fire & Rescue, were able to provide for 83 families in the Camas area. Each family received a turkey, potatoes, milk, bread, fresh fruit and some non-perishable items along with a gift card to Safeway and a Goodwill Industries voucher to purchase clothing and shoes.

Gifts were provided for 185 children ranging in age from birth to 18 years old. Teenagers received gift cards along with socks, hats and gloves. Toys were provided for the younger children. Twenty three bikes were donated and given away.

The C.A.R.O.L. Program wishes to thank the many individuals, churches, businesses, service clubs and the Camas School District for their donations. The program could not continue without such great community support!

**Sanitary Collection Notes:** When inclement weather affects the normal pickup schedule, you can call **817-1531** for updates on garbage removal. If snow hits for multiple days, your garbage will be picked up on your regular day the following week. You are allowed to place additional garbage with your can at no extra charge. In most cases, recycling service follows the same procedure. For recycling questions, contact Waste Management at 892-5370.

### 2008 Holiday Schedule

#### President's Day

Monday, February 18, 2008

Garbage and recycling will be picked up on Tuesday, February 19

#### Memorial Day

Monday, May 26, 2008

Garbage and recycling will be picked up on Tuesday, May 27

#### Independence Day

Friday, July 4, 2008

Garbage and recycling will be picked up on Monday, July 7

#### Labor Day

Monday, September 1, 2008

Garbage and recycling will be picked up on Tuesday, September 2

#### Veteran's Day Holiday

Monday, November 11, 2008

Garbage and recycling will be picked up on Tuesday, November 12

#### Thanksgiving Holiday

Thursday & Friday, November 27 & 28, 2008

Thursday garbage and recycling will be picked up on Monday, December 1; Friday garbage and recycling will be picked up on Tuesday, December 2

#### Christmas Day

Thursday, December 25, 2008

Garbage and recycling will be picked up on Friday, December 26

#### New Year's Day Holiday

Thursday, January 1, 2009

Garbage and recycling will be picked up on Friday, January 2

## R-U-O-K? No, it's not text messaging shorthand, it's a communication tool for stay-at-home seniors

The RUOK Program is a free computer-based telephone calling system offered through East Clark County S.A.L.T. that provides daily checks on homebound senior citizens. Participants are generally senior citizens residing anywhere in Clark County who live alone or who have specific physical or medical needs that would cause them to need daily contact to ensure that they are okay.

**How the program works:** Once information is entered, the computer will call the participant on a daily basis. When the participant answers the phone, the

computer will play a pre-recorded message and will hang up. The program is designed to detect answered calls only; it cannot tell the difference between a person and an answering machine. Should the number not be answered, the computer sends out an alert. The communications center personnel will then contact the appropriate law enforcement agency and officers will go to the participant's residence and check on their welfare.

This program is not intended to replace programs such as Medic Alert or other programs that deal with medical

problems. This program only calls at the pre-arranged time, if something happens after that, we won't know until the next day's call is placed to the residence.

If you are interested in this program for yourself or an elderly loved one, contact Tami Strunk, Community Service Officer, at 834-4151 or 817-1527.

### S.A.L.T. means Seniors and Law Enforcement Together

S.A.L.T. is a cooperative effort of the Clark County Sheriff's Office, the Camas Police Department, the Vancouver East Police Department and the senior citizens of Clark County. An acronym for Seniors and Law Enforcement Together, the organization has as its purpose to:

- decrease crime and the fear of crime in order to raise livability for seniors
- increase and improve senior crime prevention and education
- improve local law enforcement's knowledge of the crime prevention needs of seniors and identify the concerns of local senior citizens
- improve victim assistance
- involve senior citizens in crime prevention and the educational efforts of S.A.L.T.

You can get involved in S.A.L.T. by simply coming to the meetings, held at the Camas Police Department on the fourth Monday of the month at 11 a.m. You can receive a free issue of the S.A.L.T. Times newsletter by calling the Sheriff's Office Outreach Unit at 397-2211 ext.3380. Information is confidential. If you have any questions, call Tami Strunk, Community Service Officer at 834-4151 or 817-1527.



Enjoying a noon meal and conversation in this photo at the Camas Community Center are, left to right, Jeanette Gillas, Margie Lehn and Noma Ostenson. Lunch is served to senior citizens on Fridays in Camas by the non-profit Loaves and Fishes. On the second Friday of every month, bingo fills the rest of the afternoon and draws a crowd of 30 to 40 participants.

### Police chief post should be filled in two months

Recruitment is underway for a new Police Chief for the City of Camas. Chief Don Chaney retired Jan. 18, 2008, and Captain Mitch Lackey is acting chief in the interim. The City expects to have a new chief on staff by the beginning of April and is working with Waldron and Company in our recruiting efforts.

Chaney ran successfully for the at-large Camas City Council position in November and will now serve the City in that capacity, after being sworn into office at the council meeting Jan. 22.