

City Vision



■ May 2008
Volume 18, Issue 3
Editor: Barbara Baldus

Your information link to the Camas Community

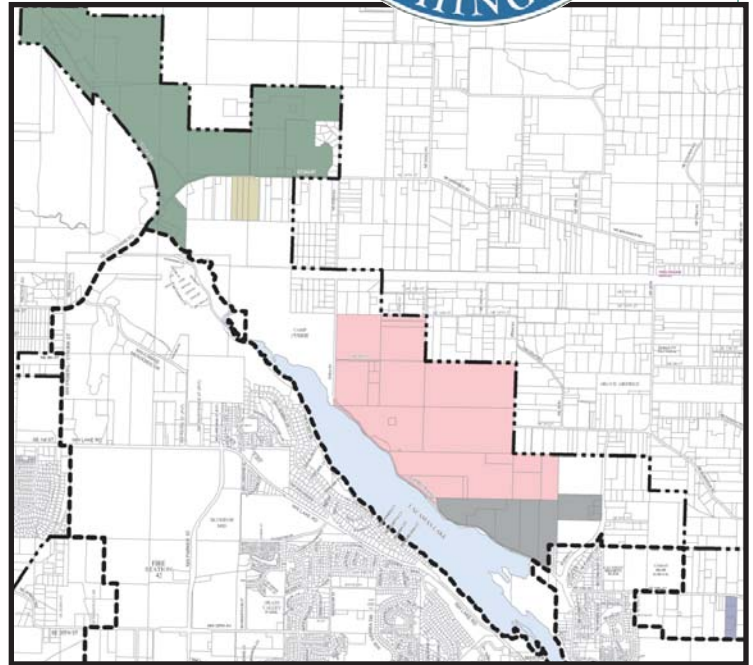
Council endorses larger city

■ *Careful planning tied to action*

The Camas City Council held a public hearing in April regarding five separate petitions to annex a total of 1,171 acres of unincorporated land into the city limits. The council approved the annexation requests and took an additional step by imposing a moratorium on development within these areas.

The parcels are within three geographic areas: Green Mountain, land northeast of Lacamas Lake, and approximately 10 acres lying south of Nourse Road and southeast of the high school.

What does this mean? The annexations resulted in approximately 1,171 acres being added to the 8,335 acres that were already within the Camas city limits. On May 12 the City began providing services to these areas, including police and fire protection as well as maintenance of roads and other public facilities.



This map, which zeroes in on Lacamas Lake, designates with colored blocks the parcels lying north and east that have been annexed into the City this spring.

These annexations, together with the moratorium on development, give the City the ability to plan at a level that ensures businesses and jobs will be integrated into a livable community. Included will be schools to serve new residential areas, trails, parks and open space to protect the lake and wetlands. The additional planning is intended to expand upon previously adopted studies for this area and further refine the costs for transportation, water and sewer infrastructure.

When will all this planning be finished and development begin? There is no definitive date. The City Council has stressed the importance of planning well in

advance of development, with completion of planning processes subject to budgeting limitations, priorities, partnerships and scheduling.

This will involve the City of Camas Planning Commission, which holds workshops on a variety of planning topics including performance zoning, tree conservation, pollution discharge, green building practices, sustainable development, community signage and more.

If you have an interest in following and participating in the discussions, consider attending one of the many scheduled planning workshops. For more information on upcoming planning topics, contact the Planning Office at 817-1562 or visit the City of Camas web page at <http://www.ci.camass.wa.us/pworks/plancomm.htm>



Giddy Up for Camas Days. The biggest festival in east Clark County takes over Camas July 25 and 26 with a western theme. Fourth Avenue, where this photo was snapped last year, fills with festivities. Joining the parades, arts and crafts, food and wine in 2008 will be a bucking bull, putting in an appearance Saturday. Only the bravest cowboys and girls will be allowed near the mechanical beast, according to the Camas-Washougal Chamber of Commerce.



Meet & Greet the City Council

an occasional visit with your neighbors in public office

Melissa Smith is a life-long resident of Camas and graduated from Camas High School. She was appointed to the Council in 2004 and was elected in 2005. Melissa has been in the manufacturing industry for over 30 years and currently works at Georgia Pacific as a buyer. She has Applied Purchasing Practitioner certification in the purchasing field. Melissa has a cat and dog.



Melissa serves on the following committees for the City: Parks & Recreation, Finance, Planning Commission, Community Center Short Range Planning, and the Tree Preservation Committee. She is a newly-elected board member for the Northwest Supply Management Association (NSMA) and serves as the Treasurer. In her spare time she likes to walk her dog, garden, crochet, read books and dabble in making jewelry.

Steve Hogan is serving his first term as a City Council member. He has been a resident of Camas since 1994. His wife is Mary Beth and they have two grown daughters, Shannon and Lisa. He has been a senior manager and chief operating officer in the steel and wood industries but retired in 2001 and has been a business consultant and community activist since that time.



Steve has been appointed to the following committees for 2008: Downtown Vision Coalition liaison; Camas-Washougal Chamber of Commerce liaison; Planning Commission alternate liaison; and Georgia Pacific Mill Advisory Committee.

Steve is also the 2007-2008 President of the Camas-Washougal Rotary Club. He is a member of the Camas Athletic Fields Committee currently working on upgrading the six-acre field south of Doc Harris Stadium. He has been a member of the Service Corp of Retired Executives (SCORE) and is a former board member and president of the Camas Educational Foundation. He has been a member of the Camas School District Facility Committee and worked on the \$90 million school bond campaign last year.

In 2006 Steve received the designation of Certified Municipal Leader from the Association of Washington Cities and received his Advanced Certified Municipal Leader designation the following year. He has an undergraduate degree in Business Administration with a specialty in Finance from the University of Washington and a Masters Degree in Business Administration from Seattle University with a specialty in Marketing.

Camtown Youth Festival: by kids for kids at Crown Park

Join Camas Parks and Recreation, the Camas School District and our community youth for the seventh annual Camtown Youth Festival Saturday, June 14, between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. This free family event has been created by youthful Camas event planners for kids between the ages of 3 to 16. It will take place at Crown Park, located at NE Everett & NE 17th Avenue.

The festival will include a variety of games and interactive amusements, craft activities, a petting zoo, food, an art show, a flea market and youth information tables. Detailed fliers and posters will be distributed through the schools and to the community closer to the event date. Please bring canned food, non-perishable items, or a new toy to help support our local Treasure House.

Event includes kids' flea market

Kids, sell or trade home-made arts and crafts or your good but unwanted toys during a unique flea market at the Camtown Festival. To sell or trade, rent a 10-foot-by-10-foot space for \$4. You, as the vendor, provide your own table and supplies. Customers can purchase items; toys and crafts also may be traded. Items must be in good condition and children must have adult supervision on-site. Pre-registration for vendors is required at Camas Parks and Recreation, **834-5307**.

Farm goods available Saturdays

The Camas Farmer's Market has opened and will continue every Saturday through Oct. 4. The agriculturally-based market is operating from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Fifth Avenue between Birch and Cedar.

Vendors provide a variety of fruits, vegetables, meats, breads and flowers. Plans call for chef demonstrations, local musicians and children's activities. For details on this growing market check the web site at www.camas-farmersmarket.org

City Sponsored Cleanup June 21

Summer Cleanup for Household and Hazardous Waste will be held Saturday, June 21. Residents living inside Camas city limits will be able to dispose of a number of items free of charge at the City of Camas Operations Center, 1620 SE 8th Ave., in Oak Park.

While no coupon or pass is required, you must live within the Camas city limits to participate and proof of your address may be requested. A donation of two canned food items to benefit local food banks is requested.

Households will be allowed to discard up to two cubic yards of material during the hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Operations Center at no charge. Material should be sorted into wood, general

waste, and metal. No yard debris will be accepted. Old tires may be recycled at Les Schwab Tire Center for a nominal fee.

In addition, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. on the same day, unwanted household hazardous materials, block foam and electronic waste will be collected at the same location. Clark County will be running this free program and it is not restricted to those living within the Camas city limits. Households are limited to 25 gallons of hazardous material in containers no larger than five gallons.

The annual event to help the environment and get rid of waste material is sponsored by the City of Camas, United Camas Association of Neighborhoods and Waste Connection Inc. With questions contact Ronda Syverson, City of Camas, at **817-1561 ext. 4256**.

Speed detection upgraded

The Camas Police Department has received a \$3,000 grant from the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs to purchase a laser speed measuring device called LIDAR. While the department uses several Doppler radar units, the new LIDAR unit uses a focused infrared beam and digital targeting system to measure the speed, distance, and direction of the target vehicle. The unit also may be utilized to measure distances at collisions or crime scenes.

Last year alone Camas Police received three grants from WASPC to replace or update equipment in patrol cars. The department is dedicated to increasing safety in our community and will continue to seek resources that help us to perform our jobs effectively.

Project Lifesaver offers an ounce of safety for the most vulnerable

Project Lifesaver is designed to provide a safety net for the most vulnerable citizens in our community. Each client is provided a one-ounce electronic bracelet that emits a unique radio signal 24 hours a day.

Clark County was the second agency in the State of Washington to adopt the Project Lifesaver program back in 2001. Now 27 clients are benefiting from this service.

When a client wanders, a call to 9-1-1 by

the caregiver triggers a rapid response by a trained team within the Clark County Sheriff's Office and local volunteer search and rescue leaders. Using mobile equipment, search crews are able to locate a client by the transmitted signal. This signal can be detected inside or outside, day or night, up to a mile on the ground and five to six miles from the air.

Nationally, thousands of searches are organized annually to help locate victims of

Alzheimer's, autistic or Down Syndrome children, or persons with traumatic brain injuries who inadvertently stray from protective care.

Agencies using Project Lifesaver have reduced search time dramatically. Searches that lasted hours and utilized dozens of search and rescue personnel are now accomplished within a brief



An annual picnic in Heritage Park raises funds for Project Lifesaver. This year's event is scheduled for July 21 at 11 a.m. and is sponsored by SALT, a partnership between senior citizens and local law enforcement.

amount of time by small specialized teams.

In Camas, Project Lifesaver joins SALT (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together) and other programs aiding citizens in need. The cost to the client is \$25 per month, including inspection and bat-

tery change. The fee is waived in cases of financial hardship.

If you have any questions or would like information on this service, call Tami Strunk, Community Service Officer, at **834-4151** or **817-1527**.

Second Story Gallery goes atmospheric in June

What evokes a perfect summer day more than fluffy clouds in a blue sky? That's the feeling you'll



Birds of a Feather by Kathy Cotner

get when you visit the Second Story Gallery in June, where the paintings of Kathy Cotner will be on exhibit in a show called "Beyond the Landscape, Above the Horizon." The gallery, fittingly, is upstairs in the Camas Public Library and open during library hours.

Get the Reading Bug

Library shows you how to catch it through summer programs

In the Pacific Northwest we tend to get a lot of bugs in the summer. Nasty mosquitoes, pesky ants and bucketsful of gnats. However, there's one good bug you can get at the library this summer: the reading bug.

Summer is a great time to read, with lots of natural light lasting until late in the evening and time to kill at the beach or in the woods. It's easy to experience metamorphosis through a book.

Once again, the Camas Public Library has lots of incentives for you to spend time reading. There will be a summer reading program for those under age 12, those 12-18, and even a program for adults.

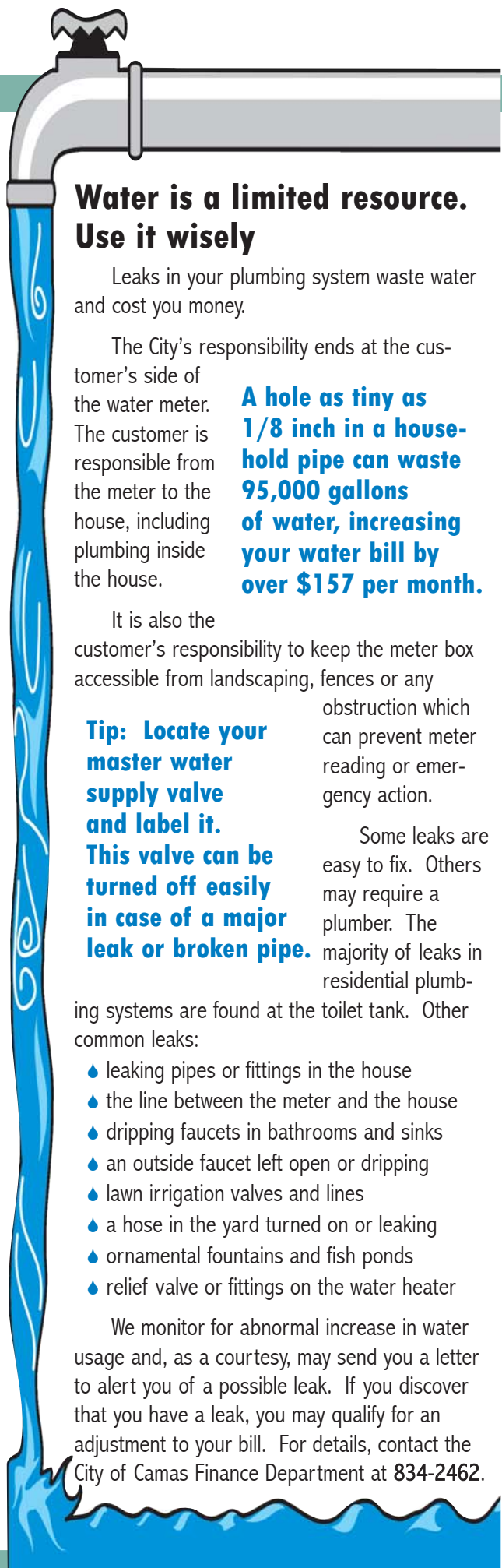
All the fun gets underway in June when sign-ups begin for younger kids. Plans call for magic, movies, insects and much

more! Watch for signs, fliers, and announcements for details about these events.

Book discussion groups are yet another way to catch the bug. The library currently has two book discussion groups for adults. The "No Two Readers Read the Same Book" group meets on the second Thursday of each month. On June 12 they will be discussing *Sharp Objects* by Gillian Flynn and on July 10, *Snakeskin Shamisen* by Naomi Hirahara.

The library's "Mystery & Mayhem" book group meets on the third Thursday. On June 19 they will be discussing Tim O'Brien's *In the Lake of the Woods* and on July 17 they will be talking about *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson.

If you're interested in joining in, ask at the library's service desk—there are multiple copies of most titles available to borrow. You can pick up a complete list of books at the library or on-line at www.ci.camas.wa.us/library or Under the Cupola at <http://camas.typepad.com/library/> Visit the library, be part of the story.



Water is a limited resource. Use it wisely

Leaks in your plumbing system waste water and cost you money.

The City's responsibility ends at the customer's side of the water meter. The customer is responsible from the meter to the house, including plumbing inside the house.

A hole as tiny as 1/8 inch in a household pipe can waste 95,000 gallons of water, increasing your water bill by over \$157 per month.

It is also the customer's responsibility to keep the meter box accessible from landscaping, fences or any obstruction which can prevent meter reading or emergency action.

Tip: Locate your master water supply valve and label it.

This valve can be turned off easily in case of a major leak or broken pipe.

Some leaks are easy to fix. Others may require a plumber. The majority of leaks in residential plumbing systems are found at the toilet tank. Other common leaks:

- ◆ leaking pipes or fittings in the house
- ◆ the line between the meter and the house
- ◆ dripping faucets in bathrooms and sinks
- ◆ an outside faucet left open or dripping
- ◆ lawn irrigation valves and lines
- ◆ a hose in the yard turned on or leaking
- ◆ ornamental fountains and fish ponds
- ◆ relief valve or fittings on the water heater

We monitor for abnormal increase in water usage and, as a courtesy, may send you a letter to alert you of a possible leak. If you discover that you have a leak, you may qualify for an adjustment to your bill. For details, contact the City of Camas Finance Department at 834-2462.