



February 15, 2003

City of Kalispell

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Kalispell Quarterly

Building a Community that Expects Excellence

City Manager's Welcome by Chris Kukulski



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I would like to thank you for taking time to read the City's first quarterly newsletter. This new communication tool is a means of informing you of the great things taking place in your City and to stimulate your thoughts on ways we can improve our community. The City has recently identified its core values, vision and mission. These fundamental points are the foundation of the

organization. It is my sincere desire, as your City Manager, to keep you informed on City projects. I firmly believe that your participation in the community is best served when everyone remains well informed. I hope that you find the newsletter both informative and enjoyable. We would appreciate any feedback on ways to improve the newsletter.



MISSION

To Provide the Services, Resources and Competitive Environment that Enhance the Quality of Life for All Citizens.

Mayor & City Council

Mayor Pam Kennedy

- Ward 1: Don Counsell
Robert Hafferman
- Ward 2: Fred Leistiko
Hank Olson
- Ward 3: Jim Atkinson
Randy Kenyon
- Ward 4: M. Duane Larson
Jayson Peters

Parks and Recreation Department Provides Many Services

The City of Kalispell Parks and Recreation department plays an important role in providing a large number of recreation activities through well-planned and maintained parks, playgrounds, facilities and recreation programs. It directly touches a majority of the City's

citizens through each one of its departments; Parks, Recreation, Urban Forestry and Aquatics.

Our City parks continue to improve in beauty and expand in use. The cooperative effort between the City and the local community has seen the development of a bike/pedestrian

trail system that is continually being expanded. This year the Lawrence Park Phase II Trail was completed with the placement of the Lawrence Park Bridge, which connected the Whitefish Stage Trail to Lawrence Park and eventually to the downtown Kalispell core area.

Continued on Back Cover



Susan Moyer—Appointed to Montana Board of Housing

Susan Moyer, Director of Community Development, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Montana Board of Housing (MBOH) for a four-year term. This is quite an honor for both Susan and the City. She is the first staff person from a governmental entity to sit on the Board. MBOH’s mission is to provide affordable

housing in the rental and homeownership markets. Participating lending institutions provide single-family home financing with lower interest rates for families of one or two. Gross annual income may not exceed \$45,000. Also, families of three or more whose incomes do not exceed \$52,500 may be eligible. Low-to-moderate af-

fordable housing activities, whether rentals or First Time Home Buyer assistance, are undertaken by MBOH and non-profit or for-profit developers.

We are confident that Susan’s appointment to the Board of Directors will be good for MBOH and good for Kalispell.



Susan Moyer
Director of Community

New Managers in Community Development

Lynn Moon has been appointed as the City’s Community Development Housing Manager after taking early retirement from a 22-year career with the City of Helena in a similar position. In addition to her part-time position with the City, Lynn

works half time as an Affordable Housing Consultant for the Glacier Bank Affordable Housing Foundation.

Sandy Wheeler joins the Community Development Department as the City’s CD Redevelopment Manager. She comes to the

City with an 18-year employment history with Rural Development in affordable housing and six years of banking experience in regular loan underwriting and construction financing. We are looking for lots of activity and achievements in the months to come.



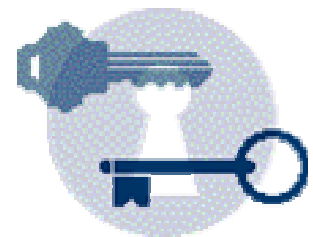
Sandy Wheeler & Lynn Moon

Centre Court Manor –New Senior Housing

The Centre Court Manor, a 40-unit senior housing complex, is under construction on Second Avenue West. Occupancy is tentatively set for July 1, 2003. Ten of the units are two bedrooms, and the remaining units will have one bedroom. All units will have air conditioning

and rent includes all utilities. Carol Thrasher, Manager of Big Sky Manor, is taking names and telephone numbers of individuals interested in renting; however, formal applications will not be accepted until May 2003. Carol may be reached at 257-0371.

Once the complex is completed, the City will be demolishing the blue buildings to the south. A landscaped, commercial parking lot, constructed in its place, will provide additional parking for downtown businesses and employees.





Streets and Streetscape

an Update from Jim Hansz, Public Works Director

Believe it or not, spring is just around the corner. And, with spring's arrival you will also notice the unmistakable sights and sounds of construction as City crews and private contractors begin the annual task of improving and repairing City streets.

Many projects are on the Public Works Department list every year. As our streets age they receive preventative maintenance in the forms of asphalt overlays to rebuild the strength of the roadway, and chip-seals and pothole repairs to maintain the driving surface. Streets also receive periodic paint jobs to replace worn lane stripes, crosswalks, and other pavement markings so that drivers and pedestrians have fewer things to distract or confuse them as they go about their business. Also on the list for this spring will be the completion of the Downtown Streetscape Project on First Avenue East and First Avenue West.

The Downtown Streetscape Project has its origins in the City's downtown redevelopment plan. This plan, adopted 20 years ago, outlined a comprehensive vision for the orderly revitalization of the City's his-

toric downtown business district. Over the years, using funds generated from within the Downtown Urban Renewal District, many projects to encourage business development and replace aged infrastructure have been completed. The current streetscape project is the last of these projects, but was one of the first identified many years before. It returned to center stage about three years ago as a formal proposal from the downtown business community. Since then a coalition of businesses, private citizens, City government and State officials have worked in partnership to develop a



“This project has received generous helpings of both criticism and praise, and when construction resumes this spring we expect this will continue.”

streetscape plan that meets the competing technical requirements of government agencies while satisfying the goals of the community that were expressed in the original plan

for downtown redevelopment.

This project has received generous helpings of both criticism and praise, and when construction resumes this spring we expect this will continue. As with all significant street improvement projects, construction on these two busy streets involves a large measure of temporary inconvenience. This spring you can expect detours around the work zones, temporary changes in how you get to your favorite business, and occasional closures of intersections as work is done to replace signals and curbs and the many other things on the contractor's "to do" list. Montana Lines, the general contractor, has shown an admirable level of proactive thinking that has been coupled with the necessary follow-through to minimize these impacts on the local business and their customers, but there are impacts nonetheless. With your continued patience, and a little help from the weather so we can begin early in the year, this project will be an addition to the community we can all enjoy with pride.

Core Values

Individual Responsibility

Take personal accountability for actions, words and deeds.

Honesty

Represent yourself with credibility and integrity.

Respect

Treat every individual with dignity, fairness and compassion.

Personal & Organizational Growth

Strive for excellence through ongoing learning and development.

Major Case Unit Plays Key Role in Murder Investigation

Credit for great police work goes to Detectives and members of the Kalispell Police Department's Major Case Unit in solving a recent "who-done-it" murder in Kalispell.

Nearly two years ago the department recognized the need to improve its ability to process and preserve evidence at crime scenes. Recent improvements at the State crime lab in Missoula have made DNA comparisons more readily available to local law enforcement in their efforts to solve crimes.

Toward that end, the department began to provide specialized training to officers in the recognition, collection and processing of evidence that might contain DNA and other trace evidence. The department also decided a team approach was the best way to handle these "needle-in-a-haystack" searches. As a result, in August 2002, seven members of the department officially created the Major Case Unit. Each member specialized in a forensic assignment.

The team had only to wait a few months before their training and preparation would be tested at the scene of a complicated homicide investigation. In October, officers were notified of a murder occurring at a second-hand store on the south side of Kalispell. No known witnesses or suspects were initially apparent.

The Major Case Unit scoured the cluttered scene looking for evidence that the killer might have left behind.



KPD officers Brett Corbett, Roger Nasset & Brian Fulford and State Crime Lab Tech Stacey Brown observing the characteristics of blood falling from a variety of heights.

Hundreds of pieces of potential evidence were collected and processed for fingerprints, DNA and other trace evidence. At the same time, investigators were running down leads and conducting interviews.

In less than two weeks, investigators identified and arrested a suspect. Although all of the evidence processing is not complete, it is clear from the initial crime lab analysis that the evidence collected by the Major Case Unit will play a significant role in prosecution of this terrible crime.

Always do right.
That will gratify
some of the peo-
ple, and astonish
the rest.

- Mark Twain

City Council Elections Set for 2003

The City of Kalispell will have four openings on the Kalispell City Council, one opening in each ward, beginning January 5, 2004. The terms shall run for four years with an annual salary of \$5,000.

Filing for these positions opens April 27, 2003 and will close on June 26, 2003. A primary election, if needed, is scheduled for September 9, 2003 with the general election on November 4, 2003.



Kalispell's Fire Department & Ambulance Responds

Fire response statistics for 2002 indicate a reduction in the number of actual fires as well as a reduction in the total fire loss for the community. Last year, Kalispell firefighters responded to 529 incidents. Of those, 58 were actual fires, such as structures, vehicles, brush, and miscellaneous fires. This number is down from the 2001 statistics, which indicated 70 actual fires. The severity of fires was also down during 2002, as indi-

cated in the overall fire loss statistics. The fire loss for 2002 was just over \$280,000, or a per capita loss of \$19.45. Statistics for 2001 were \$1,005,675, which equates to a per capita loss of \$77.81

In 2002, the Kalispell Fire Department dispatched an ambulance to 2,466 emergency medical calls. This is an increase of approximately 2 percent over 2001 and continues the trend we have watched for over ten years.



Fire Department Receives Large Grant

In December, 2002, the Kalispell Fire Department received a \$101,432 grant from the United States Fire Administration. These funds will be used to replace aging self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), to purchase training equipment, and to implement a fitness/wellness program. We hope to have the new SCBAs here by the end of February. Part of the

training equipment has already been ordered. The fitness/wellness program began in January with a fitness and health assessment of each firefighter. In February, a fitness program designed for each individual firefighter will be in place. Through the fitness/wellness program, we hope to reduce the number of injuries we receive.

"...fitness and health assessment of each firefighter."

New Assistant Chief/ Fire Marshall

The Fire Prevention Division welcomes Jim Stewart, Assistant Chief/Fire Marshall, and his wife Patti to Kalispell. Jim comes to us from Richland Fire Department in Washington State, and is an excellent addition to the community because of his expertise in fire prevention and community relations. We are now in the process of filling the Operations Chief position, with hopes of filling the position by April 15th.



City of Kalispell Administrative Staff

"At Your Service"

For concerns or City service information, contact the following departments/divisions:

City Manager:	Chris Kukulski	758-7703
Administrative Coordinator:	Pati Heath	758-7774
City Attorney:	Charlie Harball	758-7709
Police Chief:	Frank Garner	758-7786
Fire Chief:	Randy Brodehl	758-7762
Finance Director:	Amy Robertson	758-7755
Public Works Director:	Jim Hansz	758-7721
Director of Parks & Recreation:	Mike Baker	758-7716
City Clerk	Theresa White	758-7756
Building/Zoning:	Craig Kerzman	758-7733
Human Resource Specialist	Marti Hensley	758-7757
Community Development	Susan Moyer	758-7743





City of Kalispell

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Email: cityhall@kalispell.com

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.KALISPELL.COM



Advisory Board Openings

The City of Kalispell is looking for interested persons for several advisory board openings. All board members must be residents or electors of the City and terms shall begin May 1, 2003. Mail applications to Mayor Pamela B. Kennedy, P. O. Box 1997, Kalispell, MT 59901. All applications must be received no later than March 31, 2003. For more information please contact Theresa White, City Clerk, 758-7756 or twhite@kalispell.com.

Board of Adjustment—One (1) Opening

The Board of Adjustment may hear and decide appeals where it is alleged that there is an error in the enforcement of the Kalispell Zoning Ordinance; hear and decide special exceptions to the terms of the Kalispell Zoning Ordinance; and to authorize, upon appeal, such variance from the terms of the Kalispell Zoning Ordinance.

Airport Advisory Board—Six (6) Openings

The Airport Advisory Board aids the City Manager in directing the operation of the City Airport and the adjacent City-owned property.

Conrad Mansion Museum Board—One (1) Opening

The Conrad Mansion Museum Board is responsible for the continuing maintenance, restoration, and operation of this historic site museum.

Police Commission—One (1) Opening

The Kalispell Police Commission assists the City in establishing a hiring process for the police force; to examine all applications for the police force; and to serve as a grievance board for all matters related to discipline for all sworn police officers.

Parks and Recreation Department Provides Many Services (from Page 1)

The residents of Kalispell supported a new Aquatic/Skate Park facility through the bond passed in the last election. Presently, bids for the project are being reviewed. The construction would begin early this spring for an opening date of June 2004.

Our recreation department offers a large variety of very popular recreation programs and activities for all ages. These programs range from preschool basketball, soccer, sports camps, summer day camps filled with field trips, swimming and games, to

hiking, skiing, dance and internet classes for the adults and seniors, just to name a few. In addition, we host special events throughout the year including dances, ice cream socials, and a wonderful summer concert series.

The Urban Forestry department maintains the City boulevards and green spaces. It is responsible for removing hazardous and dead trees, planting new trees and pruning residential and commercial boulevards. The department collected in excess

of 3,500 Christmas trees, recycling them as chips and compost available for public use. In addition, we offer residents our expertise in the area of planting and care of trees for the urban environment.

The Parks and Recreation Department has services too numerous to mention available to the residents of Kalispell. We encourage you to visit our new office at 35 First Avenue East, or phone us at 758-7718. We would thoroughly enjoy accommodating your requests or inquiries.