

CITY OF WAITSBURG NEWSLETTER

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Dog Licenses Required for All Dogs

The City of Waitsburg requires that all dogs be licensed within the City. Dogs shall be registered and licensed annually. Proof of rabies vaccination is required. The effective date of annual licenses is June 1. The annual license fees are as follows:

- Male dog, altered - \$10
- Male dog, unaltered - \$30
- Female, altered - \$10
- Female, unaltered - \$30
- Dangerous dog - \$500
- Potentially dangerous dog - \$200
- Declared Vicious Dog - \$200

Having dogs licensed helps the City identify and quickly return animals to their owners.

The fine for not licensing your dog is up to \$300 per day

Any questions or for more information contact City Hall at (509) 337-6371

MARKEETA LITTLE WOLF, MAYOR SECOND QUARTER—NEWS AND VIEWS

This quarter I am giving more consideration to our town's heritage and how do we get from there to tomorrow and still be worth recognizing. Waitsburg's time honored slogan "One of a Kind" rings true. One of our Citizens, however, suggested we try: "Welcome to Revitalized Waitsburg". We are moving this Town forward and I believe that is the only way we can save it and our quality of life.

It's summer and the living for Waitsburg is busy. After many years of hard work, disappointments, more hard work and small victories, the Waitsburg Streetscape Project is under way. Our Main Street will have a fresh look that will still reflect the town's history. Many thanks to the Waitsburg Community Revitalization Committee for the hours they dedicated to bringing in that project. Job well done. In conjunction with the Streetscape, Waitsburg's water tower, on the hill above North Main Street, is to be repainted and decorated with a large mural of Waitsburg's official logo. The Streetscape and beautified Water Tower will be symbols of our economic growth and help attract new businesses and tourism to Waitsburg.

Another coming improvement is a new sidewalk along the West side of Coppei Avenue from the Touchet Bridge out to Taggart Road. This walkway has been badly needed and will improve safety for pedestrians and should especially provide a smoother ride



Mayor Markeeta Little Wolf with the Waitsburg Flag at the 75th Annual Washington Association of Cities conference

for our friends and neighbors who rely on motorized chairs in getting to and from downtown.

Speaking of heritage, let's start at the beginning. Waitsburg was named after Sylvester Wait. Mr. Wait settled in the area not long after homesteaders were first planting wheat and barley; all that was needed was a flour mill. Mr. Wait built the mill with local lumber and the Touchet River powered the milling operation. The mill purchased grain from the farmers and processed it into flour. Wait's Mill, a commercial success that drew related activities to town, was central to the formation of the City of Waitsburg and remained important until it closed in 1957.

In 1999 the City of Waitsburg took on ownership of the then

long abandoned Mill. Unfortunately no maintenance on the structure has been done since then. Now, to preserve, restore and reconstruct Wait Mill, starting with a new roof and as yet unknown foundation work, our architects, ALSC Architects, PS., project it will take up to ten years to do the work and the cost—they estimated at \$1.42M in 2007. The City is now applying for grant money for the Mill and looking at other sources of funding for that work. According to three estimates, a new roof on the Mill will cost about \$250,000. A bid for demolition came in at \$275,000+. Asbestos removal and necessary permits are still unknown costs. A restored Mill, could become a home for shops,

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HISTORIC FIRST—WAITSBURG REPRESENTED AT THE AWC CONFERENCE

At the 75th Association of Washington Cities, Waitsburg was represented for the first time. Mayor Markeeta Little Wolf attended the annual conference in Yakima. Beyond the educational programs, earlier this year AWC sent a call out for cities with flags to open the Governor's

Luncheon with a Parade of Flags.

Saving the best for last (and maybe because the parade was in alphabetical order) Waitsburg's banner burst on the delegates in a blaze of red and yellow.

After lunch Governor Chris Gregoir gave a

State of the State address and then opened the floor for questions and comments. Mayor Little Wolf spoke to the Governor about difficulties the City of Waitsburg was having getting the Department of Fish and Wildlife to respond to requests to contact it in re-

gards to applying for necessary permits to do work in the Coppei Creek. Governor Gregoir responded and instructed her Eastern Washington representative, Sheila Collins to help the City of Waitsburg. The Governor's office is now in close contact with the City and Fish and Wildlife on the Coppei Creek project. The necessary permits are being obtained from the department and the Corp of Engineers. Excavation under the Coppei Bridges is scheduled to begin in late September.

Also Mayor Little Wolf attended several classes provided by AWC and returned to Waitsburg, hopefully, a little smarter.



Mayor Little Wolf as a flag bearer in the Parade of Flags 75th Annual Washington Association of Cities conference

Council meetings at Ye Town Hall 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 7 p.m.

July 2—July 16

August 6—August 20

September 3-September 17

Everyone is encouraged to attend

CITY DELIVERS PRESCRIPTIONS TO WAITSBURG CLINIC

For many years after the local pharmacy closed, our citizens could count on Eric Seibel, PA to bring prescriptions from Elk Drug on his way back from lunch in Dayton. When Eric left the Columbia County Hospital District and the Waitsburg Clinic the deliveries stopped. This has caused a hardship to many in the community especially the aged, infirmed and folks without private transportation. Local resident,

Patty McGraw, contacted the Mayor regarding this problem.

The solution: Columbia County Transit will pick up prescriptions from Elk Drug around 2 p.m. every business day and deliver them to the Waitsburg Clinic before 3 p.m. (The Waitsburg Clinic closes at 4 p.m.) For same day delivery residents should have there prescriptions in to Elk Drug no later than Noon. This service is

available to everyone who needs medication.

For more information please contact the Waitsburg Clinic at (509) 337-6311



COUNCILMEMBER LEROY CUNNINGHAM A CALL TO SERVICE



Leroy Cunningham, Mayor Pro Tem,
Finance and Parks/Cemetery Committee

Why do we become volunteers? Sometimes it is in reaction to a physical threat like the '96 flood, or to help a neighbor in a moment of crisis, like when the community turned out to help Mar-keeta and Mike after their devastating house fire few years ago. It's obvious they did not forget those acts of compassion. When it comes to community, we volunteer out of compassion and love for our community of neighbors. Other times we volunteer simply because it feels good. I do it as a way of publicly "paying it forward";

it gives me a sense of pride and reinforces my personal belief that a single act of community volunteerism can, and does have a powerful positive effect upon the community as a whole.

Volunteerism is a fantastic tool that can be used by everyone; a tool used to enrich and reinforce the valued concepts of extended family. Waitsburg is my home and I understand that every man, woman and child within its boundary and on its margins are part of my extended family. I like thinking that I and my other 1200+ family members living in Waitsburg are part of yours. In spite of all its positive attributes, our family has its share of family problems. Problems like infighting, gossip, division, and mistrust readily come to mind. We all at some point, have experienced, known about or participated in actions which have emotionally harmed or otherwise negatively impacted this family. This home we call Waitsburg

is also a cross-roads town; at the cross-roads with respect to community development. We are moving forward as evidenced by the smells, sights and sounds of the progress of our downtown core. Now we have an opportunity to move our family forward toward progress, as a single mind with a single ambition; the revitalization of the essence that is Waitsburg; its people. It's time for mass volunteerism, to rekindle that genetic spirit that sparks community pride. Let's use community volunteerism as a means of bringing our family together. We don't have to wait until the next 96 flood or another devastating fire. We can do something right now that we can feel good about for a change. This city administration is leading the way. Please; heed the call for community volunteerism.

To volunteer for future projects call City Hall (509) 337-6371

WAITSBURG ANTIQUE CAR SHOW AUGUST 17

Get out the wax and polish up your antique and classic cars. The first annual Antique Car Show will be held at Preston Park August 17, 2008 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. The event is sponsored by Lupe Torres, Nothing New Antiques and Lodging on Main Street. Mr. Torres notes there is no

entrance fee and all local antique car enthusiasts are encouraged to attend.

There will be concession stands, good food, live music and of course the classic cars.

For more information contact Lupe Torres at (509) 337-6393



Upcoming Events

ANTIQUÉ CAR SHOW

Preston Park
August 17th

FALL FESTIVAL & BUFFALO BARBECUE

Bruce Mansion
September 21st

SALMON BAKE

Fairgrounds
September 27th

CHRISTMAS PARADE

Main Street
December 6th

Waitsburg City Hall
147 Main Street
P.O. Box 35
Waitsburg, WA 99361

Phone: 509 337-6371
Fax: 509-337-8089

www.cityofwaitsburg.com

Our web site has these helpful tools for your convenience:

*Permits/Forms
A list of City forms
available online*

*Ordinances/Codes
This section outlines all of the City ordinances, codes and resolutions*

City Map

Land Use Map

Area Map

*Watershed
Main source of water for the City of Waitsburg*

Cemeteries

Business Directory

Club Directory

Links to Related Web Sites

Events Calendar

Council Meeting Minutes

Council Meeting Agenda

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a restaurant, a winery (what a fit that would be) and return it to being a foundation building for the City

Wait Mill is our historic landmark. It is recognized by the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation on its Most Endangered Properties List and is on the National Register of Historic Places. In its day, Wait Mill was the largest production gristmill West of the Mississippi. Preserving this historic treasure could be of real value to our community and give our heritage deserved respect. We lose more than a building otherwise and in a way diminish ourselves. believe the Citizens of our

our community value the retention of Waitsburg's heritage and if it is at all possible economically, we will save the Mill. As the saying goes, "tomorrow is here" but we still have some say over what it will look like.



Waits Mill (Circa 1890)

RANDY HINCHLIFFE, CLERK/TREASURER **Changes to the City's Development Code (Waitsburg Municipal Code Title 10)**

In 1999, the City of Waitsburg passed Ordinance 771 which outlined various items related to development within the City. Since then various chapters have been amended to reflect changes in the City's plan for future development.

The City of Waitsburg is required to update its Comprehensive Plan and Development Code at least every five years under the Growth Management Act. The past City Council was very proactive in the update to the development code and meet weekly during last summer to update and fine tune the City's code; especially as it relates to the Residential (R-1) Zone. First and foremost, the code has example pictures of what the wording is indicating, reducing confusion to the average reader. It also expands on landscaping requirements. An example is that trees are no longer allowed in the parking strips along the road, but must now be placed on the property inside of the sidewalk; resolving maintenance and ownership questions. Set backs remained the

same as before, 20 feet from the front and rear property lines as well as 5 feet on the sides. Minimum lot sizes where increased from 7,500 square feet to 10,000 square feet and block and lot designs were updated with each new platted lot or parcel shall have a minimum width at the building line (front street setback) of 100 feet. In an effort to provide symmetry between the original City and potential future developments, blocks and lots are to be laid out in a similar manner to the old portions of the City. Newly placed homes and structures are not allowed to exceed 35% of the overall square footage of the lot. An example of this would be usage of 3,500 square feet of a 10,000 square foot lot. Fence standards are still the same (42 inches in the front and 72 inches on the side and rear), but a \$25.00 permit is required to install a fence with the fence being made of a durable material, i.e. vinyl, chain link, etc.

Other residential design standard include a height limit of 35 feet to the peak of the roof

with the roofs of all single or multifamily structures having a minimum pitch of four feet of rise for each 12 feet of horizontal run (4:12), and shall have an eave of six-inch minimum attached to the entire perimeter. Accessory structures (garages, shops, etc.) must be located in such a way so that they do not dominate the main structure and must be consistent with the parent structure in form, massing and color. All storage shall be wholly within an enclosed building or shall be completely screened from view from surrounding properties and public rights-of-way, and shall be accessory to the permitted use on the site; there shall be no storage in any required front street or flanking street yard area.

The information above was only a brief summary of the updates to the City's development Code. I encourage all citizens to log onto the City's website and look at the entire code or come by City Hall and view it during business hours. Many long hours went into the update with good understanding by the Council at that time of what the future Waitsburg should look like as we continue to grow and expand.