

Performers on the Plaza Joins Summer Music Program

Sequim residents and visitors enjoyed music on the Civic Center Plaza each Friday afternoon during the month of August. The program kicked off during the First Friday Art Walk with a successful Block Party and the finale of the Keying Around program. The new events were planned by the City Arts Advisory Committee and join the successful Music in the Park program.



Sequim Crime Rate on the Decline



The overall crime rate in Sequim declined for the fourth consecutive year as reflected in the Police Department 2016 Annual Report, the latest year that statistics are available. There were 124 overall crimes per 1000 residents in 2013 and 81 crimes per 1000 residents in 2016.

The City's 2016 crime rate was lower than other cities of comparable size that are also regional shopping destinations.

Violent crime rates in Sequim remain below the state average also for the fourth consecutive year.

The Sequim Police Department has 19 commissioned officers, one reserve officer, and 26 Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS).



Guy Cole Event Center Phase One Complete



Members of the community joined City Council members and staff in a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of Phase One of the Guy Cole Event Center remodel project. The project

included interior and exterior improvements to the building including the installation of a stained glass window featuring a Sequim elk. Phase Two of the renovation will be the kitchen upgrade and is expected to be complete in Spring 2018.

The City Hosts National Park Exhibit "Piecing Together a Changing Planet"

The National Park Fiber Arts Exhibit "Piecing Together A Changing Planet" was on exhibit at the Sequim Civic Center during the months of May and June. The exhibit has traveled the country since 2014. Sequim was the only stop in the Pacific Northwest.

The juried show of 26 art quilts was created by artists in Florida to highlight a few of the many ways that America's 401 National Parks are being impacted by climate change, water pollution, air pollution, and other human-caused phenomena.



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Successful Rally in the Alley Program Replaces Spring Clean-Up

The City of Sequim has partnered with Habitat for Humanity of Clallam County to hold a series of “Rally in the Alley” events that work in designated neighborhoods to help residents clean up their properties and dispose of unwanted refuse. Volunteers from organizations throughout the Sequim-Dungeness Valley have come out to help with the clean-up efforts. The program has been so successful that in 2017, Rally in the Alley formally replaced the annual Spring Clean-Up event.



Sequim Holds the First Business Blitz



The City kicked off its Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) program in 2017 by conducting the first Business Blitz. A visit from Seahawks mascot “Blitz” helped to get things started. The City partnered with the Sequim-Dungeness Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Clallam County Economic Development

Corporation to visit over 40 businesses in a single day to start a dialogue about their future plans and concerns of the business, City services, and other available programs that may assist businesses with their overall wellness.

Sequim Picklers Contribute to the Construction of New Pickleball Courts

Members of the Sequim Picklers presented the City of Sequim with a check for \$217,700 on December 20, to contribute to the construction of eight tournament quality Pickleball courts at Carrie Blake Community Park. The Sequim Picklers first began an education and fundraising campaign in 2014 when they saw that the Pickleball courts were included in the draft of the Carrie Blake Park Master Plan. In addition to the City of Sequim, other major contributors to the project include the Clallam County Lodging Tax Fund, the Haller Foundation, Maybelle Clark Macdonald Fund, First Federal and pro bono architectural services from Christiane Johnson. Construction of the courts is expected to be complete in 2018.



A Healthy Fiscal 2017

The City enjoyed a recovering economy and increased development activity resulting in a healthy fiscal year in 2017. Increases will allow the City to contribute to reserve funds.

26 Years with No Audit Findings

The Washington State Auditor’s Office completed a financial audit for the City of Sequim for 2016. There have been no findings in the City of Sequim audits for at least 26 years. The Transportation Benefit District (TBD) has received clean audits since its inception in 2010.

Public Works Focuses on Pavement Rehabilitation Projects



The City of Sequim Public Works Department continued work on pavement rehabilitation in 2017 at the following locations :

- West Prairie Street between Sequim and Fifth Avenues
- Miller Road and South Sequim Avenue
- East Silberhorn Road and South 7th Avenue
- East Spruce Street and East Cedar Street intersections from North Knapman Avenue and North Brown Road
- Old Olympic Highway
- West Hemlock between South 4th and South 5th Avenues
- West Alder Street and North 3rd Avenue intersection

Pavement rehabilitation includes pavement overlay and subgrade repair. All projects were funded with the Transportation Benefit District and Utility funds.

Engaged City Staff

Gallup describes Engaged Employees as those working with passion and feeling a profound connection to their company. They drive innovation and move the organization forward.

Sequim City staff participated in a survey in 2017 to measure the engagement level of the staff. The average level of engagement in organizations throughout the country is 30% of employees who are engaged in their jobs. The City of Sequim employees measured 63% of active engagement with their jobs, which puts the City of Sequim at a world-class organization level.

Volunteers Donate Over 11,000 Hours of Service

Volunteers for the City of Sequim donated 11,027 trackable hours of service in 2017. They donated their time and talent to assist the police department through the Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) program, served as Civic Center concierges, worked with departments on administrative tasks, and helped beautify the City by maintaining gardens, trails and park amenities.



Congratulations to City volunteers Alex Belokon and Gayle Larson, winners of the 2017 Westcott Award for their work in scanning volumes of documents for the Department of Community Development.

Sequim Named Best Northwestern Small Town

Sequim was named Best Northwestern Small Town by the USA TODAY 10Best Reader’s Choice travel award contest.

The City was notified in March that it was one of twenty in the Northwest that had been nominated by a panel of experts. Sequim residents rallied for the voting competition and Sequim held the lead for the entire four week competition.



New Entrance for Carrie Blake Community Park Opens

Members of the community joined the City Council and staff as they cut the ribbon on the new entrance to Carrie Blake Community Park.

The new entrance and access road is on Blake Avenue just north of Trinity Methodist Church. The new road provides vehicular access to parking areas serving the Guy Cole Event Center, the off-leash Dog Park, the baseball fields, playground areas, and skate park.



The City Holds Successful Neighborhood Visioning Meeting



More than 170 Sequim residents attended the Neighborhood Visioning meeting to discuss potential names for their neighborhoods and to help identify service projects for the upcoming 2018 Service Fest. The event was sponsored by the City of Sequim, Habitat for Hu-

manity - Neighborhood Revitalization, and First Federal. City staff followed up with each neighborhood to further develop project lists and discuss how neighbors can more actively engage with the community and each other.

Water Reclamation Facility Receives 6th Award

The Sequim Water Reclamation Facility received a “Wastewater Treatment Plant Outstanding Performance” award for 2016 by the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE). This is the sixth year in a row that the Sequim facility has received the award for achieving full compliance with its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. Only 119 systems out of approximately 300 received the award.