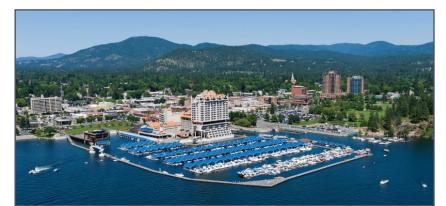
#### City of Coeur d'Alene Municipal Milestones Newsletter

February 2024 Issue 116



# In The News

## Eagle Joins Idaho Disaster Dogs

Coeur d'Alene Firefighter Morgan Zajicek will spend the next two years training 12-week old chocolate lab, Eagle, to be an emergency response canine.

The Eagles Lodge members purchased the lab for Idaho Disaster Dogs and will help cover Eagle's training expenses over the duration of training.

Once trained, Eagle will be deployed from the Coeur d'Alene Fire Department's canine search team, responding to nationwide calls as needed. Firefighter Zajicek notes that Eagle is 'super smart' and 'very willing to learn.'

For more information on Idaho Disaster Dogs and the amazing work they do, <u>click here</u>.



Photo: Coeur d'Alene Press





#### MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

<u>Mayor</u> Jim Hammond

208.666.5754

#### City Council

 Dan English
 208.819.0940

 Amy Evans
 208.819.1349

 Dan Gookin
 208.667.5200

 Woody McEvers
 208.691.5303

 Kiki Miller
 208.661.1778

 Christie Wood
 208.819.5274

#### CITY DEPARTMENTS

Main Line	208.769.2300
<b>Building Services</b>	208.769.2267
Engineering	208.769.2235
Finance/Utilities	208.769.2227
Fire	208.769.2340
Human Resources	208.769.2205
Legal	208.769.2348
Library	208.769.2315
Municipal Services	208.769.2300
Parks	208.769.2252
Planning	208.769.2274
Police	208.769.2320
Recreation	208.769.2250
Streets	208.769.2235
Wastewater	208.769.2281
Water	208.769.2210



Municipal Milestones Newsletter February 2024

#### THIS MONTH'S EVENTS AT THE LIBRARY

Yoga for You! Mondays 9:30 am - 10:30 am

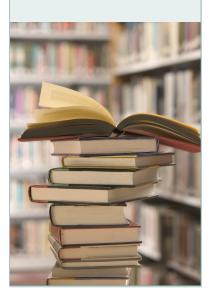
Winter Baby Story Time Ages 0-18 months Tuesdays 9:00 am and 11:00 am

Lawyer in the Library 1st Thursday of the Month 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

> Winter Garden Fun Ages 6-12 Tuesdays 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Stronger in Mind & Body Wednesdays 10:00 am

For more information on any Library event, call (208) 769-2315, or visit the Library's <u>event calendar</u>.



# 9th Annual Seed Swap

The Library is hosting its 9th Annual Seed Swap on Saturday, February 24, from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm. Bring your extra seeds (home-saved or purchased) to share with others and go home with a sampling of seeds for your spring and summer planting! Learn about seed saving from some of our region's avid seed savers. Sample seed varieties that are well-adapted to our local growing conditions.



This event is not intended to supply all of the seeds you will use for planting a garden, but to give you an opportunity to try new varieties. No seeds to swap? Come anyway and consider donating to help cover program costs and help our seed swap program grow.

While everyone is always welcome at the Library, this event is intended for adults.

# Writers Immersion Workshop

# Celebrate Your Storyful Quest at a Writers Immersion Workshop

The series, which is taught by Kim E. Morgan is focused on key elements of literary themes. The study of personal mythology deepens narrative storytelling and more. Hands-on group activities centered on journaling and mini lessons guide you in developing your craft and sparking your inspiration.

#### Saturday, February 10th (10:30 am-12:30 pm)

Memoir: Writing a Story of Personal Transformation.

#### Saturday, March 23rd (10:30 am -12:30 pm)

The Archetypal Artist: Seven (7) Mythic Structures for Any Genre.

# Coming Soon! Online Utility Bill Payment Options



The City is excited to announce a new, optional online utility billing system for City Residents. Be on the lookout for your February bill which will contain all the information needed to start paying your utility bills online.

With the new system, you will have the option to do the following:

- Automatically pay your utility bill each month
- Pay online at your convenience
- Receive e-statements so you can review your monthly bills
- Or continue with paper billing
  - \_\_\_\_\_

On January 2, City Council approved an agreement with Billing Document Specialist (BDS) for utility bill statement services. Beginning in February BDS will be printing, mailing, and accepting electronic payments for City of Coeur d'Alene utility customers. BDS will also host a web-based online payment system that will allow customers to view current and past utility bill statements, establish automatic monthly withdrawals or one-time payments, and/or allow customers to establish text message or email reminders and pay their bill from text or email.

City staff have been diligently working to provide a cost-effective way to provide an automatic bill payment system for the utility bills paid monthly to the City. Staff were able to negotiate the contract at a reasonable rate that would not increase utility rates. Currently, utility bills may be paid online, over the phone, or in person at City Hall. The credit card processing fee is paid by the customer. With BDS, utility bill customers will have the option to log in online and pay their bill each month, or establish an automatic bill pay process where the amount of their utility bill will be automatically debited from their bank account or charged to their debit/credit card. The processing fees will continue to be paid by the user at the extremely low rate of 2.35% or a \$2.00 minimum.

An automatic bill payment option has been a request by utility users of the City for many years. The City's IT Department found a system that is reasonable in price and compatible with the City's financial accounting system. BDS will adequately meet the needs of the City now and into the future.

#### CITY COUNCIL AND COMMISSION MEETING INFORMATION

**City Council Meetings** 

1st and 3rd Tuesday each month 6:00 pm Library Community Room

Ped/Bike Committee 1st Wednesday each month 4:00 pm City Hall

CDA TV Committee 2nd Monday each month 8:00 am City Hall

Parking Commission 2nd Tuesday each month 3:00 pm City Hall

Planning Commission 2nd Tuesday each month 5:30 pm Library Community Room

**Urban Forestry Committee** 

3rd Friday each month 8:00 am City Hall

Park and Rec Commission\* Monday before 3rd Tuesday 5:30 pm Library Community Room

Childcare Commission 4th Monday each month 6:30 pm City Hall

Arts Commission 4th Tuesday each month 4:00 pm City Hall CITY COUNCIL AND COMMISSION MEETING INFORMATION, CONT.

Historic Preservation Commission 4th Wednesday each month 2:00 pm City Hall

Library Board Meeting 4th Wednesday each month 4:00 pm Library Community Room

#### SPECIAL MEETINGS IN FEBRUARY

Park and Rec Committee\* Moved to February 26 5:30 pm Library Community Room

Design Review Commission Hagadone Tower February 22 1:00 pm Library Community Room

For more information, please visit the <u>Calendar page</u> on the City of Coeur d'Alene's website.

## Coming Soon! Online Utility Bill Payment Options, cont.

BDS, located in Caldwell, Idaho will able to provide customer service to both City staff and the citizens of Coeur d'Alene. BDS will also provide merchant services in order that debit/credit card payments may still be made in person at City Hall. Staff is confident that the option for automatic bill pay and full-page utility bill statements will not negatively affect customers, as all things will stay the same if a customer so chooses.

# Spring Youth Soccer

Registration for the spring youth soccer program for boys and girls in grades K-8 will be held at the City's Park & Recreation Department office located at 710 E. Mullan Ave. from February 19 – March 8.

Games will begin in mid-April. Fee is \$25 for city residents and \$35 for non-city residents.

K and  $1^{st}$  grades play micro soccer 3 on 3.  $2^{nd} - 8^{th}$  play is 7 on 7. Participants must currently be enrolled in Kindergarten or be 5 years of age to be eligible for the Kindergarten league.



For more information, contact the Recreation Department at 208-769-2250.

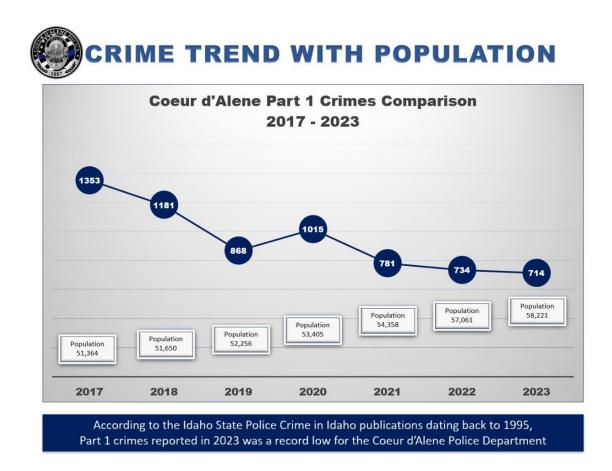
# **Snow Information**

To stay up-to-date on how snow can impact the city, visit the <u>Snow Information page</u> on the City's website. Here you can find information on the City's Snow Plan, storm names, and an interactive map that follows the plowing schedule in real time.

If you have a specific question, please call the Streets and Engineering Department at 208-769-2235.

# Sneak Peak - 2023 Annual Report

As the Coeur d'Alene Police Department (CDAPD) complies data for its 2023 Annual Report, the Department wants to take time to thank the members of the community for the continued support to help fight crime in Coeur d'Alene. The proactive efforts of officers on the streets combined with an involved community who, when they see something, they say something, has led to significant crime reduction despite an increasing population. CDAPD could not do this without the community it serves, law enforcement partners, and the prosecutors who take the cases to court. 2023 finished with a 2.72% reduction in crime, the cumulative total from 2014 until now is a decrease of 65.87%. The 2023 Annual Report will be available in March.



# The City of Coeur d'Alene is Hiring!

Visit the City's employment website if you are interested in working for the City of Coeur d'Alene. Up-to-date job postings are listed <u>here</u>.

