



## City of Coeur d'Alene Municipal Milestones Newsletter

Issue 6/November 2014

### IN THE NEWS

#### Welcome City Administrator Jim Hammond!

Jim Hammond, a former Idaho state senator who previously served as a city councilman, mayor and city administrator in Post Falls, has been named Coeur d'Alene city administrator. Hammond, 64, was selected from a nationwide pool of 64 candidates. Mr. Hammond's official start day is Monday, November 17th.



"I am very excited to welcome Jim Hammond to the city," said Coeur d'Alene Mayor Steve Widmyer. "Jim brings great leadership skills, extensive city experience and is well respected in North Idaho, as well as the entire state. I look forward to working with him to accomplish great things for Coeur d'Alene."

#### Photo Contest Winner Named



The city received dozens of pictures as part of our "What Makes a Place Great" photo contest to recognize National Community Planning Month in October. Bryan Varney captured a striking picture of the McEuen Park public artwork "Allium Spring Chorus." For his winning effort, Bryan wins lunch for two with Mayor Steve Widmyer. Voting will

open soon for our People's Choice award. Watch for details soon on our Facebook page and city's website for details on how to vote online. The winner of the People's Choice award gets a gift card from Vault Coffee.

#### American Worker Stands Tall at McEuen Park

The latest piece of public art at McEuen Park was installed on November 6th at Sixth Street and Front Avenue along the promenade adjacent to the park. American Worker, created by local artist Terry Lee, was donated to the city by Dean Haagenon, owner of Contractors Northwest, Inc., general contractor for the McEuen Park project.



### Newsletter Archives



### CITY FACES



#### Renata McLeod:

#### Growing Up at City Hall

When Renata McLeod landed a part-time summer job with the city of Coeur d'Alene in 1988, she never dreamed she'd still be working at City Hall 26 years later.

"Heck no," says Renata, who was in high school when she started working for the city. From a professional perspective, it was humble beginnings for Renata. She started out in the city's Summer Youth Program and was "sort of loaned out to several departments" where she performed

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Haagenson donated \$50,000 for the bronze sculpture, which stands 6-foot-7 and weighs 300 pounds.

## Volunteers Plant Seedlings on Tubbs Hill

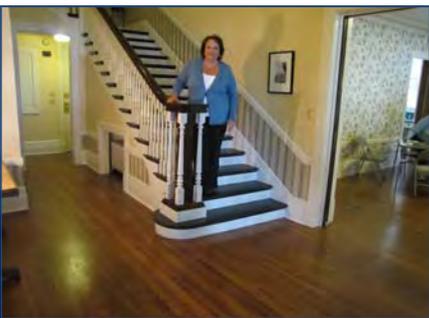
Volunteers rolled up their sleeves recently and planted 800 tree seedlings on the west side of Tubbs Hill. Urban Forestry Coordinator Katie Kosanke said the project was a huge success thanks to the Lake City Key Club, student council, and AP environmental science students, as well as students from Coeur d'Alene High School's biology class.



Volunteers were guided by tree planting experts from the city's Urban Forestry Committee and the Tubbs Hill Foundation. A combination of larch and ponderosa pine tree seedlings were planted in the 27 acres where brush was cleared by goats and hand crews over the summer to reduce fire risk.

## Jewett House Renovations Complete

A \$35,000 renovation project at the Jewett House has been completed. Work at the historic senior recreation center on East Lakeshore Drive included widening the driveway to accommodate emergency vehicles and senior center vans, painting of all the interior of the first floor and restoration of the wood flooring on the first and second floors and stairway.



Marla Lake, Jewett House Manager

A new heating system was also installed and the greenhouse was painted. An anonymous \$50,000 donation provided funding for the \$35,000 in upgrades.

The remaining \$15,000 will be used for future upkeep, including exterior painting.

## LEAF-FEST '14

### Leaf Pickup Kicks off Wednesday

The city's street department will begin the annual leaf pickup on Wednesday. Crews will start in neighborhoods south of Sherman Avenue and work their way north. Completion is expected by December 1. Last year, crews hauled 820 dump-truck loads — 2,174 tons — of leaves. For best results, follow these tips:

a myriad of tasks. She later worked her way up to switchboard operator before becoming a roving secretary.

With her foot in the door at City Hall, Renata started full time with the city after high school, working as a secretary in the building department (while attending college) before moving on to the legal department where she eventually earned the status of senior legal secretary.

Continuing her journey through various roles at City Hall while working her way up, Renata worked as an assistant city planner, served a short stint as growth services director (overseeing building, engineering and planning) and eventually became a project coordinator.

Renata was sworn in as Municipal Services Director/City Clerk in January 2013 after long-time City Clerk Susan Weathers retired.

It's been a rewarding career and tremendous learning experience, says Renata, who has always considered herself part of the city family.

"I literally grew up in the halls of City Hall," she says. Having recently celebrated her 25-year anniversary with the city, Renata says she expects to be a fixture at City Hall for years to come.

"I enjoy knowing what's going on in the community and being involved in some aspect of it," she says. "Looking back over the years, it's kind of exciting to see how the city has evolved."

As Municipal Services Director, Renata supervises Information Technology, which

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- Keep the leaves about one foot away from the curb line to allow storm water flow.
- Be alert for leaf pick-up equipment traveling through your neighborhood.
- Keep a safe distance away from leaf pick-up heavy equipment.

Understand that city and private trucks are exempt from covering loads during the leaf pickup period. Sweepers will follow City trucks to collect remaining/excess leaves.



## CITY

## SCOPE

### “Our Gem” Lake Coeur d’Alene Symposium

What does Lake Coeur d’Alene mean to you? To our community? To the region? Lake Coeur d’Alene’s social, cultural, environmental, and economic importance to our community will be the topic of conversation during the first



“Our Gem” Lake Coeur d’Alene Symposium Tuesday, November 18th, at the Coeur d’Alene Resort. The event begins at 8:30 a.m.

Participants from throughout the Coeur d’Alene Basin are encouraged to attend to learn about the current health of the lake from area researchers. Participants will hear how the health of the lake economically impacts the area. A \$15 registration fee will include breakfast and lunch. For more information, event organizers can be contacted at ourgemcda@gmail.com, or by calling Idaho Department of Environmental Quality at (208) 666-4623, or the Coeur d’Alene Tribe at (208) 667-5772.

can be a challenge given that the department is charged with keeping technology running smoothly citywide. “Thank God for our great team in IT,” she says.

In her current role, Renata also oversees approval of all business licensing and permits for the city with a great team of staff. In the upcoming year, the Municipal Services Department will add a much needed IT professional and deal with code enhancements to mobile/door-to-door sales and implement regulations for public transportation, including the city’s 10 taxi companies.

Renata and her husband, Bill, have an adorable 3-year-old daughter, Alyssa.



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**Renata McLeod**