In The News

Holiday Message from the Mayor

The changing of seasons, how great it is to watch the gradual change from winter, to spring to summer to fall. Oh wait, that didn’t happen this year! We went from the cold of winter to the heat of summer to the cold of winter! So bundle up, prepare for the holidays but don’t stress.

Christmas can particularly challenge us trying to find and afford the perfect gifts for everyone on our lists. Cyndie and I stumbled onto a less challenging way of gift giving. When serving in the Idaho Senate I was gifted with many “gifts.” But rather than throw away I threw them into a box and took them home and used them for white elephant gifts for the kids and grandkids. What we found is that everyone thought the white elephant gifts were more fun than the “real” gifts. I don’t get all the trinkets but Cyndie and I spend the year finding “gifts” at garage sales and antique shops, etc. We try to throw in some more valuable gifts and then everyone else brings gifts as well. They are all wrapped in the same brown paper so no one knows who brought the gift. We have had more fun with much less spending and the materialistic part of Christmas and the stress of Christmas is diminished as well as expectations not met.

It is a great privilege to work with all of you. Thank you for your dedication to our city and I wish less stress and more laughter for the holidays! - Mayor Hammond
Mobile Santa Food Drive 2022

December 17 -23, Coeur d’Alene Firefighters will be driving Santa around the neighborhoods of Coeur d’Alene collecting food and cash donations for the food bank and spreading Christmas spirit. The goal is to collect over 5,000 pounds of food to help those families in the community that need it this holiday season.

Santa’s Itinerary:

- December 17 – West of 7th St, South of Appleway Ave
- December 18 – East of 7th St, South of Appleway Ave
- December 19 – East of Hwy 95, North of Appleway/Best Ave
- December 20 – West of Hwy 95, North of Appleway, South of Kathleen Ave
- December 21 – West of Hwy 95, North of Kathleen Ave, South of Hanley Ave
- December 22 – West of Hwy 95, East of Atlas Rd, North of Hanley Ave, South of Prairie Ave
- December 23 – West of Atlas Rd, North of Hanley Ave, South of Prairie Ave

Santa’s sleigh is an old fire truck that has been decorated with Christmas lights and plays Christmas music. When you hear the music or see the sleigh, come outside, donate some food, talk to Santa and get a candy cane! Santa will be on the road from 4:30 pm – 8:30 pm each night.

Santa won’t be able to visit every street in Coeur d’Alene, so please go the Coeur d’Alene Fire Department website and use the Santa Tracker to find out where he is and come track him down, so you (and your kids) will be sure to see Santa.
**Mudgy and Millie Holiday Singalong—December 10**

Join the fun at the Library on Saturday, December 10 at 11:00 am for the annual “Holiday Singalong with Mudgy, Millie, and Santa.” The free program will be in the Community Room on the lower level of the Library. Easiest access will be from the lower parking behind City Hall and through the lower Library entrance. Children’s author Susan Nipp, creator of the “Mudgy & Millie” book and the nationally known “Wee Sing” series of books and music, will lead the children in singing some holiday favorites. Mudgy Moose and Millie Mouse will be on hand along with Santa Claus. They will be available after the music for informal photos -- so be sure to bring your camera!

**Annual Holiday Book Giveaway—December 12 - 23**

Jólabókaflóð (pronounced yo-la-bok-a-flodt) is the Icelandic tradition of book giving. It began in WWII, when paper was far cheaper than imported goods and Icelanders began a tradition of giving books as gifts. The Coeur d’Alene Public Library is excited to continue this North Idaho tradition, now in its third year.

From December 12 - 23, community members are invited to stop by the Library to pick up a free gift-wrapped book. The Library will have books ready for pick up for people of all ages, though the adult books are the most numerous. What book will you receive? It’s a surprise! You won’t know until you have unwrapped it. Limit one per person while supplies last.
Thanks to the assistance of citizens, streetlight outages can be reported and repaired in a timely manner to keep our community safe and bright.

To report a streetlight outage, please call 208-769-2235 or go online.

Please have the following information available:

1. Address
2. Pole number (found on pole)
3. Map number (found on pole)

Providing this information will expedite the repair process.

**HELP KEEP THE LIGHTS ON COEUR D’ALENE!**

**Winter Recreation Registration Dates**

Do you have a child interested in basketball or swim lessons? If so, here are important registration dates:

**K—2nd Grade Basketball**

- Registration will be open December 12 - January 14.
- The fee is $30.00 for city residents and $35.00 for non-city residents.
- Leagues will run February - March.
- Games are played Mondays - Thursdays and on Saturdays.

**COACHES AND SPONSORS NEEDED!**

Coaches are usually parents of the players. Please consider volunteering to coach your child’s team. Sponsoring a team costs $152.00, and the deadline to sponsor is January 4.

**REGISTRATION OPTIONS:**

- ONLINE at teamsideline.com/cdaid
- AT THE COEUR D’ALENE RECREATION DEPARTMENT
  CITY HALL - 710 E MULLAN AVENUE

**Indoor Swim Lesson Registration for Children Ages 3 - 9**

- Registration will open on Tuesday, January 3 at 8:00 am at the City Hall Recreation Department located at 710 E Mullan Ave.
- The fee is $55.00 and registration is limited. There is no pre-registration.
- Classes begin the week of January 9.
- Classes are offered either Monday or Wednesday evenings or Saturday mornings.
- Parent-tot classes are offered on Saturday mornings.

Please call 208-769-2250 for further information.
Welcome New Employees!

A warm welcome to the following new City employees. The City is privileged to have these talented individuals join as new team members.

- **Joshua Graybill, Utility Operator**  
  Water Department

- **Nick Krenowicz, IT Technician**  
  Municipal Services

- **Jadynn Overman, Animal Control**  
  Police Department

- **Cameron Poole, Heavy Equipment Operator**  
  Streets and Engineering Department

- **Jonah Russell, Police Officer**  
  Police Department

- **Kristina Rogers, Legal Assistant**  
  Legal Department

Goodbye and Thank You!

A heartfelt thank you and best wishes to the following employees who are retiring after over thirty (30) years of dedicated service to the City.

- **George Steely, Collections Operator III**—35 Years of Service  
  Wastewater Department

- **Clark Thomas, Compost Lead Operator**—31 Years of Service  
  Wastewater Department

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 here.
Holidays & Hero’s and Children’s Hospital Toy Drive

The Coeur d’Alene Police Department (CDAPD) will once again be participating in this year’s Holidays & Hero’s program where off-duty officers will take pre-selected children shopping for the holidays. Elementary School Resource Officers work with the schools to identify which children/families may be in need of assistance to ensure holiday gifts are available for the whole family. With this, the families will also be provided with a full holiday dinner. The event will take place on Sunday, December 4 at the Greyhound Park in Post Falls.

Along with the above event, the CDAPD Foundation will be collecting donations of new and unused toys as part of the 7th Annual Children’s Hospital Toy Drive. The Foundation has three (3) collection dates scheduled on Saturday November 26, December 10, and December 17, at the Hayden Walmart located at 550 W. Honeysuckle Avenue.

Over the last seven (7) years, approximately $100,000 worth of toys and money has been collected in our community and donated to both Kootenai Health and Sacred Heart Children’s Hospital. Both hospitals provide care for children of the Coeur d’Alene community. The Foundation wants to ensure that local children have new toys available to them Christmas morning when they may not be able to be home because of medical treatment they are receiving.

Toy Drive donation boxes are located in the Police Department and City Hall lobbies and Les Schwab in Hayden.

Toy Drive donations will be delivered the week of December 19.

CDAPD are also raffling a PD ‘Hot Wheels’ truck for $5 per ticket which will contribute to the programs above. Tickets may be purchased at https://www.cdapdfoundation.org/.