In The News

Winner of the 2021 Innovation Idea Award

The City’s US-95/Northwest Boulevard swale project wins another award! As described in the October 2021 newsletter, the swale was constructed to capture stormwater runoff from 210 acres of heavily developed commercial and residential properties that previously discharged into the Spokane River. The project consisted of constructing four tiers of a large swale system to capture and treat stormwater. A catch basin at the low end of the tiered infiltration swale system allows excess stormwater to return to the piped system and ultimately to the outfall if the swale system is overwhelmed by historic storm events. Once constructed, a pipe was placed under US-95 to divert stormwater to the swale, rather than to the Spokane River.

The project has received many accolades from the community and regulatory agencies for taking this big step toward improving water quality. In June 2021, the project was awarded an Achievement Award from the Association of Idaho Cities. In August 2021, the project was featured in Stormwater Magazine. This May, the City was awarded the 2021 Innovation Idea Award for Stormwater Pollution Prevention from the Local Highway Technical Assistance Council. This is just one of the many projects underway in the City’s Stormwater Outfall Volume Reduction Program that aims to reduce stormwater discharge from entering the lake and river along with all the pollutants it collects along the way.
**Music on Mondays in July**

Join the Library every Monday in July for a free concert on the McEuen side of the Library. Bring your chairs and snacks and enjoy the music.

**July 11: The Matt Renner Band**

Enjoy Old Time Country, Bluegrass, and Americana music from The Matt Renner Band. Members include songwriter/guitarist Robert Artz, drummer Lee Pittmon, bassist Tom Richards, guitarist Ella Ellinghausen, and songwriter/fiddler Matt Renner.

**July 18: Kathy Colton & the Reluctants**

Singer/songwriter Kathy Colton, Carla Grant, and Denise Bartlett bring you upbeat Folk/Rock. They are local favorites! Their strong harmonies and rhythms will have you dancing and singing along!

**July 25: Four Peace**

Four Peace based in North Idaho is an acoustic Americana band with overtones of Bluegrass, 60s, Pop, Folk Rock, and more. Singing long-time favorites like Gentle on my Mind, Mr. Bojangles, Moondance, and much more. Four Peace is a rich sound of soft vocals, mandolin, guitar, banjo, and stand-up bass.

**Jess Walter: Author Talk at the Library**

The Coeur d’Alene Public Library Foundation is pleased to present an entertaining evening with Jess Walter, one of the Pacific Northwest’s premier writers. Join the Library on July 14 to hear Jess discuss his new book, *Angel of Rome*, in the Library Community Room. The event includes complementary desserts, and Bakery by the Lake will offer wine and beer to purchase.

*Angel of Rome* is a captivating collection of twelve stories that finds an array of contemporary characters living as we live now, craving fame or reinvention that often obscures the true person behind the mask. Jess is the author of ten books, most recently *Angel of Rome* (available June 28), and #1 New York Times bestseller, *Beautiful Ruins*. His books include the national bestseller *The Financial Lives of the Poets*, National Book Award Finalist *The Zero*, Edgar Award-winning *Citizen Vince*, *Land of the Blind*, and the New York Times Notable Book *Over Tumbled Graves*. *Angel of Rome*, and additional titles, will be for sale at the event by the Well Read Moose.

Doors open at 6:00 pm, and the presentation will begin at 7:00 pm. A great variety of raffle items will enhance the evening.

Tickets are $40 per person and may be purchased at: [https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/5405269](https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/5405269)
National Carousel Day — July 25

Help celebrate the Coeur d’Alene Carousel's 100th Birthday on National Carousel Day, Monday, July 25. Free rides and fun activities 11:00 am to 5:00 pm.

The carousel is a hand carved 1922 Spillman Junior built in North Tonowanda, New York. The carousel graced the shores of Lake Coeur d’Alene as part of Playland Pier from 1942 to 1974. The Pier and other rides are long gone, but the carousel is back home. Enjoy the art and history of this wonderful treasure on July 25, National Carousel Day, located at 439 W Fort Grounds Drive in Coeur d’Alene.
City Faces

Municipal Milestones recently caught up with newly hired Wastewater Treatment Operator Brett Lefor to learn more about his role with the City.

Tell us a little bit about your background and experience:
I first started out in the wastewater field by completing a 2 year wastewater course. After that I started work for Pierce County where I was a lead operator for 6.5 years. I then moved on to King County where I was a senior operator for almost 9 years. And now I am working for the City of Coeur d’Alene.

What kind of training do you need to be a Wastewater Treatment Operator?
There are various ways people enter the wastewater arena. Some have schooling backgrounds (like me), some have mechanical backgrounds and others have biology backgrounds. There are many different skills required to operate an advanced wastewater treatment plant.

What does a Wastewater Treatment Operator do?
Regular operator duties include the collection of samples, maintaining process control parameters to meet the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, running lab tests, operating various processes and equipment throughout the treatment plant, working with hazardous chemicals, fabrication/installation of equipment, performing preventative and corrective maintenance, providing tours to the public and responding 24/7 to any issues that arise in the wastewater department.

What do you enjoy most about your job?
What I enjoy most about the wastewater field is that everyday is something new. After being in the wastewater arena since 2004, I can say that I have never had two days that are the same.

What about your family and interests?
My wife and I got married in 2013, and have two children ages 5 and 3. My family and I enjoy being involved with our church and love being outside riding bikes and hunting.

What do you love most about Coeur d’Alene and North Idaho?
My family and I loved vacationing here and love the culture and people of North Idaho. So last December we decided to move the week of Christmas from western Washington, and now here we are!

“Every day is something new. I have never had two days that are the same”
Registrations for Parks and Recreation Activities

INDOOR SWIM LESSON REGISTRATION

Registration begins Monday, July 25, at 8:00 am, for the next six-week session of indoor swim lessons sponsored by the Coeur d’Alene Recreation Department and held at the Kootenai Health Therapeutic Pool. Classes offered for 3-9 years of age, with different swim levels available. A Parent-Tot class is also offered. Classes offered for this session will be either Monday or Wednesday evenings, or Saturday mornings. Classes start the week of August 1.

Registration will take place at the Coeur d’Alene City Hall, Recreation Department, 710 E Mullan Avenue. The registration fee is $45.00. There is limited registration. No pre-registration is allowed.

FALL YOUTH SOCCER REGISTRATION

The City of Coeur d’Alene Recreation Department announces registration for youth fall soccer for all boys and girls Grades K (or age 5) – 8th Grade. Registration will be held August 1-12.

Registration may be completed at: www.teamsideline.com/CDAID, or at 710 E Mullan Avenue, in the lower level of Coeur d’Alene City Hall.

The league will start in mid-September and runs through the end of October. Registration fees are $20 for Coeur d’Alene city residents and $30 for non-city residents.

FLAG FOOTBALL REGISTRATION

Registration for fall flag football for 2nd and 3rd graders will take place August 1-24. Practices and games begin after Labor Day. Cost is $20 for city residents and $30 for non-residents.

Registration may be completed at: www.teamsideline.com/CDAID, or at 710 E Mullan Avenue, in the lower level of Coeur d’Alene City Hall.

Contact the Parks & Recreation Department at 769-2250 with any questions on the above activities.
Emergency Minor Home Repair Help

The City’s Emergency Minor Home Repair & Accessibility Improvement Program (EMRAP) is a program under the City’s Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and is expected to open for low-to-moderate income homeowners on August 1, 2022. The EMRAP may be used to assist with emergency repair/accessibility improvements, sidewalk repair/replacement, and to correct building conditions that threaten the health, safety, or the soundness of the home.

Program information and income guidelines, as well as the application forms, may be found online here: [https://www.cdaid.org/236/departments/planning/cdbg/emrap](https://www.cdaid.org/236/departments/planning/cdbg/emrap). Applications may also be mailed or picked up in person at City Hall. Please email the CDBG Community Development Specialist, Chelsea Nesbit, at cnesbit@cdaid.org, or call 208-769-2382 with any questions or for more information.

A list of community resources including childcare, rental assistance, food pantries and senior services can now be found in our CDBG pages under Community Resources. Resources for utility assistance, medical care, business resources, government, and news outlets are also listed here. If anyone has a helpful resource to add that can help residents find the help they may need, please email cnesbit@cdaid.org. The City will update this resource page periodically with new links and information.