Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration

Living the Dream

For the fourth year in a row, the City of Lynnwood has partnered with Edmonds Community College and Edmonds School District to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. This year’s celebration will be from 7 – 8:30 p.m., Thursday January 15, 2009 at the Lynnwood Convention Center. We will showcase essays that celebrate diversity and hear musical performances by students of the Edmonds School District.

This is a free city-wide event open to the public. This year’s guest speaker is Myrlie Evers-Williams, a civil rights activist and former chairperson of the NAACP. Ms. Evers-Williams will speak on the topic of Leadership by Action and Not by Design.

This is a fun opportunity for you and your family to hear performances by local high school musical groups, listen to student essays and hear our inspirational guest speaker, Myrlie Evers-Williams.
January 13, 2009 • Noon - 1:00 p.m.

Community Celebration with Coach Herman Boone, Remember the Titans
Hosted by United Way of Snohomish Co.
Edward D. Hansen Conference Center • 2000 Hewitt Ave, Everett

January 14, 2009 • 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

An afternoon with Myrlie Evers-Williams
Brownbag lunch hosted by
Edmonds Community College • 20000 68th Ave W, Lynnwood

January 15, 2009 • 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration
Guest Speaker Myrlie Evers-Williams
Lynnwood Convention Center
3711 196th ST SW, Lynnwood

Living the Dream

EDMONDS SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

Your Input Matters:
Join the Superintendent’s Roundtable Conversations

The majority of our residents do not have school-age children, yet your voice on education matters! Edmonds School District Superintendent Nick Brossoit welcomes any member of the community to bring their questions and ideas to his monthly Roundtable conversations.

The next opportunity is noon – 1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3 at the Edmonds School District ESC building, in the Board Room, 20420 68th Ave W, Lynnwood. Following an open agenda period at the start, the program topic is, “Student Transportation: Cost/Operations Update.” Topics for the reminder of the school year are posted on the Edmonds School District webpage, http://www.edmonds.wednet.edu/. Roundtable information can be found under Superintendent and School Board on the left. Notes on the previous month’s Roundtable can also be found there.
Possible Water Service Interruptions

In November and December, the City of Everett, who supplies water to Lynnwood residents through Alderwood Water District, will be contracting some major repairs to the main transmission pipes. These repairs will cause two temporary halts in service for Alderwood Water District customers.

The first shutdown is scheduled for a 12-hour period starting the night of Nov. 14, 2008. No interruption in service or pressure is expected.

A second, and longer shutdown is tentatively scheduled to begin the night of Dec. 5, 2008. This shutdown could be as long as 24-hours. With this interruption, your water pressure may drop noticeably.

If repairs do not go as well as anticipated, service could be disrupted for a longer period of time and boiling of water by customers may be necessary.

Please pay attention to news media and the City of Lynnwood website during this time for updates on the status of the work and the supply of water. The Lynnwood website contains information on how to properly boil water to prevent illness, and a list of what uses water should be treated.

To learn more, visit www.ci.lynnwood.wa.us

FACT: Lynnwood’s water supply comes from Spada Lake in Eastern Snohomish County.

Four Added to Lynnwood’s Finest

The Lynnwood Police Department has been bolstered by the addition of four new officers who graduated from the Criminal Justice Training Academy located in Snohomish County. Lynnwood’s Chief of Police, Steve Jensen said, “All of these officers are extremely well qualified to serve our community. They will enter an extensive field training program and, upon completion, be assigned to our patrol division.” Jensen added, “In their capacity as patrol officers they will directly deliver quality public safety services to our community. We are all proud of their accomplishments and welcome them to the department.”

The four graduated from the Snohomish County Basic Law Enforcement Academy in Everett on Sept. 10. The four new officers are Justin Gann, Jacob Hubby (Vice President of his Police Academy class), Blake Iverson and Ian Ouimet.

New Lynnwood Police Officers pose for a picture after being sworn in by Lynnwood Police Chief Steve Jensen on Sept. 18. From left: Officers Jacob Hubby, Justin Gann, Ian Ouimet and Blake Iverson.
Clean water is of primary importance for our health and economy. Clean water provides not just our drinking water, but also recreation and commercial opportunities, fish habitat and beautifies our landscape. We all need and use clean water, and yet all too often we pollute it.

Motor oil is the largest single source of oil pollution in our lakes, streams, and rivers. Because oil floats on water, a single pint of oil can make an oil slick larger than a football field! Americans spill over 180 million gallons of used oil into our waterways each year!

Fortunately, there are several easy things we can do to reduce this pollution. First and foremost, never dump used motor oil down the drain, on the ground or in ditches. Most auto parts stores now accept used oil for free, and recycle it into useful products. Also, check your vehicle regularly for oil leaks. If your vehicle is leaking oil, use drip pans or ground cloths to catch the oil. These simple steps can go very far in keeping our waterways healthy and pollution free!

If you see anyone disposing of oil improperly, or would like to know where you can dispose of your used motor oil, call 425-670-5207.
Annexation Update

The Lynnwood Annexation Project has gone public. City staff members have and will continue to conduct informational meetings in the potential annexation area. These meetings provide the opportunity for residents and property owners in the potential annexation areas to hear about the effects of annexation, to ask questions and to voice their concerns about annexing to Lynnwood. Comments and questions will be reported to the City Council at a work session in November. This public input will be a major component of the Council’s deliberations on whether to go forward with annexation.

The City Council concurred with holding these meetings after hearing the initial results of a fiscal impact study for the annexations. This study projects the costs to the city of providing services to the annexation area and the new revenue the city will receive to fund those services. A major revenue component is the sales tax rebate provided by the State of Washington for annexations with a population over 10,000. The state will return to the city a portion of the sales tax collected in the city for up to ten years to pay service costs for the annexation area that are not funded by other new revenues. (Note that sales tax rates are not affected – the state rebate is part of the sales tax that is currently collected.)

The city is also moving forward with annexation of two unincorporated “islands” – Maple Precinct and Perrinville. On Sept. 22, the City Council authorized filing of a Notice of Intent to annex the Maple Precinct (north side of 176th St SW, between 60th Ave W and 64th Ave W) with the Boundary Review Board for Snohomish County. In Perrinville (southeast corner of Olympic View Drive and 76th Ave W), the city is working with the property owner to schedule annexation to follow completion of the new commercial building, currently under construction. Annexation of both areas should be complete in early 2009.

Don’t Get Caught In The Cold

Every year during the first icy mornings, police see an increase of a particular crime of opportunity; theft of unlocked and unattended vehicles being warmed up.

The weather outside is frightful, however, thieves are ready and waiting for this easy opportunity to take vehicles.

This is how you can avoid being a victim of car theft whether your vehicle is in front of your home or at a busy shopping mall:

- Don’t leave your unlocked and attended car running for any amount of time.
- Completely close all windows and lock all doors.
- Remove all valuables.
- Park in well-lit locations, avoid isolated areas.
- Install an alarm system with a kill switch and/or an ignition or fuel kill switch.
- Install a steering wheel locking device or a vehicle tracking system.

TIP: To keep your windshield from icing over: cover it the night before with a towel or use a can of windshield deicer.

Need more info?
Call the Annexation Hotline at 425-670-5449
email annexation@ci.lynnwood.wa.us or visit us on the web at www.ci.lynnwood.wa.us/annexation
Tree-cycling Time in Lynnwood

Scout troops will again be out collecting resident’s Christmas trees on the first weekend of 2009. Collection dates are:

Saturday January 3, 2009
Sunday January 4, 2009

Look for tree-cycling flyers distributed in your neighborhood by mid-December for more information. The scouts will also staff a drop-off site for those residents who wish to transport their own tree to the Scouts for recycling.

Check the flyer for location or call the city’s Recycling Coordinator at 425-670-5244. Remember that donations to the troops for providing this great community service go to support next year’s Scout activities.

Hooray for the Spartans

Sparta’s Pizza & Spaghetti House, a Lynnwood institution, is celebrating 30 years at their location at 17630 Highway 99. Starting two and a half years ago, owners Chuck and Linda Geddes drastically changed one aspect of their business that most patrons never see – their garbage. Sparta’s was an early participant in a pilot program designed to introduce restaurants to having their food scraps collected and hauled to a commercial compost facility instead of heading to the landfill. The food scraps and other organic material are blended in with residential yard waste to produce commercial-grade compost.

The staff at Sparta’s dove in to the challenge and proved that, for them, this diversion was not only better for the environment but also saved on garbage hauling costs since the restaurant was able to cut its total garbage in half. Also helping the cause was a corresponding effort to increase the amount of regular recycling beyond cardboard-only collection. Sparta’s helped pave the way for the current full-service commercial compost collection program now being offered throughout Snohomish County, and so deserves to be recognized and congratulated.

Other Lynnwood businesses participating in this program that sends less to the landfill are the Lynnwood Convention Center, Billy McHale’s, Celebrations Catering, Trader Joe’s, QFC, Caffe Ladro, the Bistro at Nordstrom, Scriber Gardens Retirement Community, and more. If anyone in the Lynnwood business community is interested in receiving information on this program contact the city’s Recycling Coordinator at 425-670-5244.

Neighborhood Matching Grants Program - Coming Soon -

Beginning in early 2009, the Office of Neighborhoods and Community Affairs will kick off the Neighborhood Matching Grants Program in which the city will support projects and activities that bring neighbors together, enhance and beautify neighborhoods, encourage civic engagement and promote the general interest of the community. Through an application process, the city will award matching grants to groups of neighbors working together on projects such as creating community gardens, neighborhood trails, neighborhood identification signs, making improvements to local parks, and much more.

We are looking for community members to participate in our Grants Review Panel. If you are interested in helping the city award grant money to fund amazing projects in your community, contact us!

Office of Neighborhoods and Community Affairs, 425-670-5023 or community@ci.lynnwood.wa.us
The employees of your Surface Water Utility have a lot of work to do all year round, but when the season changes to fall it gets even busier. With over 7,000 drains to look after, you can imagine how busy they must be!

In the fall, many of our beautiful trees lose their leaves, and those leaves may fall into the streets. As it rains, those leaves get washed toward the drains, and many of the grates get clogged with matted leaves. This prevents the water from going down the drain, and may cause the street to flood.

You can help out by keeping the drains free and clear of leaves and other obstacles that may plug them. Leaves make excellent compost! If you notice that rainwater has already started backing up, try raking the leaves out of the way through the puddle. If the puddle won’t drain, or it’s just too deep to handle, call the Public Works Department at 425-670-5200.

This information is brought to you by the Lynnwood Surface Water Utility, working to keep our surface waters clean. Remember, indoor drains go to treatment plants, outdoor drains go to streams.

Get the workout your body deserves! Jump in and try our new Boot Camp class in the water. Learn how to use water resistance to feel the benefits of this motivating workout. You can experience this circuit training class with a focus on strength and cardio exercises. Every class will also leave you feeling refreshed and energized by incorporating balance and flexibility movements. With no swimming experience required, this fun and friendly class is a great way to feel amazing. Try it out. No commitment. Be motivated. Try something new.

Drop in class is held from 8:15-9:25 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday nights at the Lynnwood Recreation Center Pool. You can’t beat the price at $3.50 per class. For more information about this innovative class, please call the customer service team at the Recreation Center at 425-670-5732.
The Lynnwood City Council directed staff to develop a city-wide multimodal non-motorized transportation system. Known as the “skeleton system”, it will provide a skeleton framework of sidewalks, walkways, trails, paths, and bikeways, appropriate to allow people to travel between most homes, schools, businesses, entertainment and other services, both public and private throughout the City of Lynnwood. Existing systems inventories have been completed for the City’s sidewalk and bicycle systems as well as ranking criteria which will be used to create the “skeleton system”.

Staff is currently working with a consultant to develop the “skeleton system” which is scheduled to be complete by early 2009. Along with the “skeleton system,” a prioritized list of projects and associated construction costs will be developed. This information will be provided to the Lynnwood City Council for their use in considering program alternatives. If you would like to learn more about the program or have any questions, please contact project manager David Mach at 425-670-5275 or dmach@ci.lynnwood.wa.us.

Starting a small business? Looking for a business coach? How about financing? These questions and more are answered at www.bizinfo24x7.com, a new website with free tools for businesses in Snohomish County.

With no cost to use the web site, and no account setup or “log in” steps, there’s nothing intimidating about the site. This is important, given how overwhelming starting a business can be. The site also offers translation into several foreign languages, indicative of the area’s growing diversity. With its simple menu bar, reference desk tab, and FAQ page, there are several ways to find information on the site. And, the answers are all there—from where to find businesses for sale to where to find online financial management tools.

BizInfo24x7.com was created through a partnership of the South Snohomish County Chamber of Commerce, the City of Lynnwood, Edmonds Community College, Washington Small Business Development Center at Edmonds Community College, the Snohomish County Economic Development Council, and Workforce Development Council Snohomish County, and supported by a grant from Verizon. www.bizinfo24x7.com serves as a portal to business information, services, and support regarding the creation, development, and management of a business in Lynnwood and Snohomish County.

For more information, please contact David Kleitsch, City of Lynnwood Economic Development Director at 425-670-5249 or by email at econdev@ci.lynnwood.wa.us.

Parks & Recreation Coordinator, Kristin Price, completed the 2008 Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer 3-Day. Kristin raised over $2,700 and walked 60 miles through Puget Sound on September 12 - 14th. She was greeted at the finish line by her son, Jacob Price.

Congratulations to everyone who walked, crewed and raised money for the 3-Day!
The number of building permits issued through September 2008 was a bit higher than for the same period last year. The yearly average issued in 2004 through 2006 by the end of September was 1,840. As indicated by these numbers, building activity for this year is somewhat ahead of that in 2007, but less than for the 2004 through 2006 period.

The number of permits issued for 2008 as of the end of September totaled 1,617. This compares to 1,519 in 2007, 1,814 in 2006, 1,842 in 2005 and 1,864 in 2004 during the same monthly time frame. The permit categories include building, plumbing, mechanical, electric, signs, fences and demolition. For one, two and multiple family units, as of September there were 32 permits issued for the year. Four permits each have been issued for new commercial buildings and apartment/condo buildings. There were no new building permits issued in September.

As of October 15, there were 80 land use projects being processed by city planners.

These include:
- Annexation of the Maple Precinct with activities related to potential annexation of Lynnwood Municipal Urban Growth Areas (MUGA)
- Five Boundary Line Adjustments
- Four Code Amendments
- Five Comprehensive Plan Amendments
- Seven Conditional Use Permits
- Eighteen Environmental Reviews
- Ten Project Design Reviews
- Five plats (subdivision of three lots or greater)
- Twenty-two Short Plats (subdivision of three or less lots)
- One Wireless Communication Facility
- Two Rezones

Major projects currently under review include:
- Twelve-unit multiple-family housing
- Seventeen unit townhouse
- Four story student housing complex at Edmonds Community College (EDCC)
- Renovation of Meadowdale Hall at EDCC
- New traffic management center and remodeling of City Hall
- Twenty-five lots subdivision east end of Hall Lake
- Twenty-two short plats at various locations in and around the city
- Fred Meyer fueling facility on 44th Ave W
- Demolition of existing retail buildings with two new buildings on 196th St

If you have questions about projects or want to know more about development and the permitting processes, call Community Development at 425-670-5400.
Keep Your Home Safe From Fire This Holiday Season

Each year fires occurring during the holiday season destroy homes, injure families and ruin holidays. The Lynnwood Fire Department would like you to take a few simple life-saving steps to ensure a safe and happy holiday.

Preventing Christmas Tree Fires

• Selecting a Tree for the Holiday
  Needles on fresh trees should be green and hard to pull back from the branches, and the needle should not break if the tree has been freshly cut. The trunk should be sticky to the touch. Old trees can be identified by bouncing the tree trunk on the ground. If many needles fall off, the tree has been cut too long, has probably dried out, and is a fire hazard.

• Caring for Your Tree
  Do not place your tree close to a heat source, including a fireplace or heat vent. The heat will dry out the tree, causing it to be more easily ignited by heat, flame or sparks. Be careful not to drop or flick cigarette ashes near a tree. Do not put your live tree up too early or leave it up for longer than two weeks. Keep the tree stand filled with water at all times.

• Disposing of Your Tree
  Never put tree branches or needles in a fireplace or woodburning stove. When the tree becomes dry, discard it promptly. The best way to dispose of your tree is by taking it to a recycling center or having it hauled away by a community pick-up service.

Holiday Lights

• Maintain Your Holiday Lights
  Inspect holiday lights each year for frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in the insulation, broken or cracked sockets, and excessive kinking or wear before putting them up. Use only lighting listed by an approved testing laboratory.

• Do Not Overload Electrical Outlets
  Do not link more than three light strands, unless the directions indicate it is safe. Connect strings of lights to an extension cord before plugging the cord into the outlet. Make sure to periodically check the wires - they should not be warm to the touch.

• Do Not Leave Holiday Lights on when you are not home or asleep

Candle Care

• Avoid Using Lit Candles
  If you do use them, make sure they are in stable, non-flammable holders. Place them where they cannot be easily knocked down by kids or pets. Check around the house before you leave so that candles will not accidentally be left burning.

• Never Put Lit Candles on a Tree
  Do not go near a Christmas tree with an open flame - candles, lighters or matches.

Finally, as in every season, have working smoke alarms installed on every level of your home, test them monthly and keep them clean and equipped with fresh batteries at all times. Know when and how to call for help. And remember to practice your home escape plan. Go to www.nfpa.org for more information.
Entire Hall Lake Watershed to be Studied

Lynnwood has partnered with the cities of Edmonds, Lake Forest Park, Mountlake Terrace, Shoreline and Snohomish County to study the Hall Lake / Lake Ballinger / McAleer Creek watershed. With a $200,000 grant from the State Legislature, these entities have formed a representative forum to guide the development of a watershed strategic action plan.

The watershed primarily consists of Hall Lake, Lake Ballinger, and McAleer Creek. Hall Lake drains into Lake Ballinger via Hall Creek. Lake Ballinger drains into Lake Washington via McAleer Creek.

The plan will primarily address surface water flow issues throughout the watershed. The secondary objectives include water quality, aquatic habitat and lake and streamside enhancement opportunities.

Otak, an engineering firm based in Kirkland, has been selected by the forum to prepare the plan. Over the next 12 months, this plan will be developed and then presented for consideration and implementation by the member jurisdictions. The plan is scheduled to be completed by June 30, 2009.

For more information on this effort, please call 425-670-5207.

Lynnwood University 2008 is Well Underway

Take a look at what our students have the opportunity to experience! For information on next year’s Lynnwood University call 425-670-5023
Lynnwood Library Events

Get Back, Farmer Mac! - Welcome to one wonderfully wacky farm! Cows climb trees, goats somersault, and chickens lay scrambled eggs. National award-winning singer, songwriter and poet Eric Ode leads the fun. American Sign Language and other hand motions and movement, puppets and props, and favorite children’s books make this a tail-wagging good time. 2:00 p.m., Monday, Dec. 29.

Puppets Please Marionettes – Join us for an in-the-round marionette variety show. Fun for children of all ages! 2:00 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 22.

Hanji Craft Workshop – A hands-on class on the ancient Korean paper art form Hanji. Local artisan Young Ok Kim will teach participants how to make beautiful art objects. 1:00 p.m., Saturday Jan. 24. Class instruction and materials funded by the Friends of the Lynnwood Library. Class is limited to 20 participants – please call for more information. 425-778-2148.