INTRODUCING:

Alice Cannon, Interim Community Development Director

Alice Cannon joins the City of The Dalles after working in local government administration and planning for over 25 years. Most recently, Alice worked for the Cities of Molalla and Tualatin, she served as Planning Director and Community Development Director. She brings experience managing planning, urban renewal, and economic development programs. Alice holds a Master of Urban & Regional Planning from the University of Colorado at Denver, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Planning, Public Policy and Management from the University of Oregon. Outside the office, Alice enjoys skiing, hiking, road trips with her family, and reading books written by Northwest authors.

Megan Lick, Finance Account Technician

Megan began work for the city in August. For the past five years, she worked at Mid-Columbia Medical Center. She was born and raised in The Dalles and lives locally with her husband, son and their 2 active border collies! In her free time, she enjoys exploring the gorge and spending time with her family and friends. She is excited to dive into her new position through the City’s finance department and become deeper involved in our community.

Eric Hansen, Assistant Public Works Director

Eric was born in the Midwest, but grew up in the Pacific Northwest in the Columbia River Gorge. After he graduated from Stevenson High School, he took a job in manufacturing where he worked while attending Clackamas Community College. After 16 years in the manufacturing industry, Eric made the move from the private sector into public works. At that time, he decided to make Skamania County, Washington his permanent home to be closer to his family. He joins the City of The Dalles following 14 years serving as the Public Works Director for the City of Stevenson. In addition, Eric has served his community as a volunteer fireman and Fire Commissioner. He was the President of Skamania County Youth Sports, President of the Mt. St. Helens Chapter of the Backcountry Horsemen, and a member of the Skamania County Fair Board. When not working, Eric enjoys hunting, camping, traveling, home improvement and spending time with his wife Jennifer and their 4 children. Eric and his family are excited for the new opportunities that await them.
City Announces 50/50 Sidewalk Rehabilitation Pilot Program

City of the Dalles is announcing a pilot program to rehabilitate deteriorated sidewalks. The City of The Dalles Municipal Code 2.20.010 designates the property owner as the responsible party for keeping sidewalks next to their properties in good repair and a safe condition. The 50/50 Sidewalk Rehabilitation Pilot Program will provide some financial assistance to property owners to meet that responsibility.

The City will consider applications for the rehabilitation or replacement of existing sidewalks. The program will not apply to the construction of new sidewalks. The pilot program will focus on sidewalks located in residential areas within the city limits. Applicants for this program must be the property owner.

A City of The Dalles contractor will complete all work to meet City engineering and Americans with Disabilities Act standards. The City will make all arrangements for design, construction, permits and traffic controls. The contractor will be selected through a competitive bidding process. All work for this pilot program is expected to be completed by June 30, 2021.

Homeowners can download an application from the City website at thedalles.org/publicworksdocs. If you do not have access to the internet, please call (541) 296-5401 to ask for a paper copy.

The City will accept applications until November 18, 2020. Applications will then be prioritized within the limited funding available to provide the greatest benefit to the community. The homeowner must pay for half of the cost of sidewalk rehabilitation before the project can be scheduled.
A Message from City Manager Julie Krueger

If you have experienced financial hardship due to COVID-19 pandemic, which has made it difficult for you to pay your bills, you may be eligible for financial assistance. Please visit our City of The Dalles website http://thedalles.org/budget to complete an application for financial aid or call the Finance Department at 541-296-5481, ext. 1116 for help obtaining this form.

To all City employees, thank you for your continued positive attitudes and work ethic as we continue to work to keep the City operating through this pandemic, and now a horrific fire season. I can express enough my appreciation for all you do!

The City of The Dalles is pleased to partner with Wasco County and Business Oregon to provide economic recovery grants to local small businesses. The program criteria and application form are on the City’s website.

The City has launched a new program for employees with school-aged children for a space and tutoring services while their parents are working. This is proving to be quite successful and sparked interest from other entities to put similar programs in place to help their employees.

The Dalles Wasco County Library

Do you have a library card with The Dalles Public Library? Then use it to access some of the great apps on the library’s website. With your library card you can access the library’s online resources, such as Library2Go, which offers free downloadable audio and digital books. Kanopy gives patrons the opportunity to stream online free independent films, documentaries, kid shows, and Great Course educational programs. TumbleBooks provides children and teens free access to online books.

In most cases, when it asks for your library card number, it is all 14 digits, no spaces. If it asks for your pin number or password, it is usually the last 4 digits of your phone number (or the phone number you had when you first got your library card). If you can’t remember what it was, or it’s not working, give the library a call at 541-296-2815.

While you’re looking at the library’s website, make sure and sign up for some of the great Take & Make kits they offer each month. There are usually at least two craft type kits available to all ages, registration opens about the 28th of the month for the next month’s projects, and closes when full or time has expired. Go to the website: www.wasocountylibrary.com, click on “Start Your Chapter” then click on “The Dalles” and scroll down, and you’ll see the links to the Take and Make kit registration. You’ll also see a link to apply for a library card, if you don’t already have one.

The Library continues to offer curbside service during COVID. Please call for more information at 541-296-2815
Prepare for Winter Snow

The Dalles Public Works is making sure equipment is in good repair and stocking up to prepare our response to winter storm events. But City resources will be stretched to capacity once the snows begin. The job of snow removal is too big for City crews to tackle alone; City residents are therefore responsible for care of adjacent sidewalks during winter weather conditions.

You can prepare to assist City crews with winter storms by making sure that the following equipment in good repair and supplies are on hand:

- Snow shovel and/or snow blower (with fresh gas)
- Cooking spray for the snow shovel, so snow won’t stick to the blade
- A stiff broom to sweep snow off of porches and decks
- Waterproof gloves with a good grip; waterproof boots with good traction
- Pet-friendly, child-safe, salt-free deicer that won’t harm cement surfaces

While City crews are working hard, citizens will be asked to help in priority order:

- First priority: sand and/or shovel sidewalks adjacent to their homes or businesses. Safe passage is to be cleared within the first two hours of daylight each day. Shoveled snow is to be piled on private property, not in the street.
- Second priority: help a neighbor clear the sidewalk in front of their home. Snow that has accumulated on cars that are parked on city streets should be removed so that City plow operators will see the parked cars.

Call a contractor or contact a volunteer organization about snow removal assistance services before the snow flies if you know you will need help.

For more snow response information and a flyer about safe sidewalks and snow shoveling safety go to thedalles.org/transportation or contact the Public Works office at (541) 296-5401.

The Dalles Beautification Committee

The Dalles Beautification Committee is made up of citizens appointed by the Mayor in 2019. Members of the committee are: Brenda Coats, Bill Lennox, Connie Krummrich, Judy Merrill, John Nelson, Max Butensky and Tiffany Prince.

The committee has worked hard to identify and work on projects. COVID-19 made progress and bit of a challenge, however, this group found ways to get things done.

The committee believes in partnerships and teamwork. They have met with The Dalles Main Street, The Dalles Area Chamber of Commerce and Northern Wasco County Parks and Recreation District, The Dalles Lions Club to identify needs, ways to work together on projects and to find grants.

With the end of the Blue Zones project, the committee worked with Columbia Gorge Toyota Honda to find a way to continue the monthly community clean up project. The Main Street Program also joined the...
call to keep our community clean.

The last event was held on Saturday, October 10. Around 20 people showed up, including Committee members Bill, Lennox, Judy Merrill and Connie Krumrich. They were joined by Rich and Rose Mays, some family and friends, a cadre of Main Street backers, Rachel Carter, of Columbia Gorge Toyota Honda and her family—whose pick up was filled-to-overflowing with trash.

Main Street focused on the core downtown area and the rest of us on the area across from the Boat Dock and to the west.

Next event November 14, 2020 10 am, meet at Thompson Park.

Vogt Fountain Update:

Led by Brenda Coats, her husband, Don and Bill Lennox the Vogt fountain has been rehabilitated, though not running at this time, due to work being done at Sorosis Park. All members participated in some way to create a beautiful clean space at the rose garden, where the fountain is the focal point. Lions members, Lisa from the Chamber, Beautification members, spouses and friends all worked really hard on spreading the bark.

With the assistance of a grant from Union Pacific Railroad, and the Lions Club the team was able to have pavers installed round the walk ways inside the rose garden. The Lions Foundation continues to raise funds for a security system and updating the signage to include this rehabilitation and recognize donors of the project. Please contact Brenda Coats or the Lions club to donate to these last items, or pick up a form at the rose garden.

If you are interested in volunteering to keep the rose gardens (Sorosis and City Park) pruned and the garden weeded, please contact Gen Parker at dixiegene@gorge.net or 541-980-5138. Gene is heading up the volunteers keeping the roses gorgeous for Northern Wasco County Parks and Recreation.
CODES ENFORCEMENT

GRAFFITI

The graffiti ordinance was formerly adopted by The Dalles City Council on June 24, 2019. At that time, the City and Wasco County Youth Services (WCYS) agreed to a Memorandum of Understanding in regards to a partnership of removing graffiti within the City limits.

Over the past fourteen months working with the WCYS the graffiti has been addressed immediately and removed quickly. Project coordinator for WCYS, Nicole Beaman, has been diligent in addressing the graffiti complaints as they are reported. Most of the time, Nichole has the graffiti removed within 48 hours from the complaint.

Currently, there is very little graffiti in the City. However, some areas around alleyways tend to be tagged repeatedly. Once WCYS is notified, their process is to contact the property owner to assist in removing the graffiti. This process has been successful as the Codes Officer has not had to enforce graffiti removal from an uncooperative property owner.

The graffiti ordinance and partnership with WCYS has been a great success in promptly removing graffiti and educating the public that the service provided by the WCYS can be requested by property owners.

For more information on graffiti removal, please email Nikki Lesich nlesich@ci.the-dalles.or.us

PUNCTURE VINE

LIFE CYCLE OF PUNCTURE VINE, ALSO KNOWN AS “GOAT HEAD”

What is the most effective way to remove puncture vine?

It’s best to dig up puncture vine, bag, dispose and then apply herbicide; several applications should be applied during the season as new seedlings begin to develop.

Puncture vine grows quickly during the hottest part of the season. Once the seeding stage starts, new plants will grow. DO NOT mow puncture vine. Mowing will spread the seeds and increase plantings.

How do I prevent puncture vine on my property?

Checking bicycle or vehicle tires, shoes and pets’ feet after walking through neighborhoods and local parks. Maintaining a thick and healthy lawn will also help discourage the growth of puncture vine. Puncture vine does not thrive well in irrigated areas.
REMINDER: Property owners are responsible for keeping their sidewalks clear of any obstruction for safe pedestrian traffic.
THE DALLES MUNICIPAL CODE: 5.08.050(B)

REMINDER: Property owners are responsible for maintaining vegetation on their property as well as from the property line to the curbing and public right-of-way (street, sidewalk, alley). This includes removal of puncture vine.
THE DALLES MUNICIPAL CODE: 5.24.010 (1,2)

REMINDER: No storing of junk on property and/or public right-of-way (street, alley); including junk in trailers, trucks, vehicles.
THE DALLES MUNICIPAL CODE: 5.04.110(A)

REMINDER: Property owners are responsible for the repair of sidewalks.
THE DALLES MUNICIPAL CODE: 2.20.010

REMINDER: Property owners are responsible for the clearing of leaf and other debris from their property line to the curbing. DO NOT sweep leaves into the street.
THE DALLES MUNICIPAL CODE: 5.08.050

REMINDER: Snow and ice removal are the responsibility of the property owner, from property line to the street.
THE DALLES MUNICIPAL CODE: 5.04.080
Operation Clean Sweep

As weather cools many trees scatter leaves across lawns and streets. The Dalles Public Works mission is to promptly sweep up leaves. Fallen leaves can block storm water catch basins and cause flooding. They also create a slip hazard when they freeze onto the streets. We need your help to dispose of leaf piles and keep our streets safe.

The city-wide goal is to pick up leaves promptly so that they do not block the storm water catch basins and before they freeze onto the streets. To realize this goal we need your help. Citizens are asked to park off the street during street sweeper work hours of 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. To report abandoned autos (extended parking with flat tire, storing junk, expired tags or broken windows) call (541) 296-5481 x1153.

Do not rake leaves from your yard into the street. Compost leaves at home or put them in your yard debris container for pick-up. You can also put them in compostable paper bags and take them to The Dalles Transfer Station. Remove large sticks or branches from the roadway so they don’t jam the sweeper.

Clear storm drains in front of your house to prevent flooding during a rainstorm.

Free Leaf Disposal in November

Monday November 2, 2020 kicks off The Dalles Disposal autumn leaf disposal special. During November The Dalles Transfer Station, located at 1317 West First Street, will accept yard debris at no charge from The Dalles city residents only. Take bagged leaves to the transfer station Monday through Friday between 9 am and 4:30 pm. Free leaf disposal is for residential customers only. Landscape care companies and non-residential properties are not eligible for this special offer. Please use compostable paper bags. The Dalles Disposal will not accept yard debris in plastic garbage bags.

For more information about free leaf disposal call The Dalles Disposal at (541) 298-5149.
Police Department News

This has been an unusual summer for the Police Department. Having to continue to answer 911 calls, and having to go into unknown environments with the COVID threat, then add “anti-police” sediment occurring all around us, our police officers have had a lot to deal with.

Fortunately, we have been spared any COVID outbreaks within the police department, and we continue to receive wonderful support from our community. Both are attributed to the officer’s efforts and the awesome community we live in. Not to say that there has not been added stress to an already stressful job. I’m proud to say our police officers have continue to come to work every day, serving and protecting our community, despite the additional stress factors. There have been new and difficult challenges our officers have had to deal with, and they had done so, professionally and with continued “great” customer service.

There are a lot of changes happening within the police department this month. Officer Austin Ell was promoted to Sergeant, replacing Sergeant Jeff Halter who retired last month. Sergeant Ell has jumped in with both feet and is already making a positive impact as a new supervisor. Sergeant Jeff Halter retired after 29 years of service with The Dalles Police Department. It is always difficult to fill a position behind someone with Jeff Halter’s experience, compassion for people, and all around “good man” reputation. We had a small COVID safe send off for Jeff, and wished him all the best in his retirement.

We just hired a new police officer, Mike Smith who is lateraling to us from the Portland Police Bureau. Mike is originally from Hood River and looks forward to coming back to a smaller community with his wife and two year old son. Mike worked for the Multnomah County Sheriff’s Office as a Corrections Officer for five years, and 11 months ago was hired by the Portland Police Bureau as a Police Officer. Mike said it was difficult to leave the Police Bureau, but did not want to work in the conditions in Portland (that we are all aware of), nor did he and his wife want to raise their family in the metro area. Officer Smith will be sworn in on October 5, 2020, and because he is a lateral officer, will not have to attend the academy. We are very excited to have Mike on the team and know he will be a great addition.

The Police Department has several specialty assignment personnel changes that occurred this week. Officer Jeremy Dutton will be transferring to the Traffic Office position. Officer Dutton will take over the duties in January 2021. Officer Sam Perez will be transferring to the Neighborhood Enforcement Action Team (NEAT) position. Officer Perez will be transferring to (NEAT) October 1, 2020. Detective Joey Lick will be transferring to the lead Detective position in the Investigations unit. Detective Lick will be transferring to the lead Detective position October 1, 2020. The previous officers that held these positions, Officer Jeff Kienlen (Traffic), Officer Chris Simonds (NEAT), and Detective Austin Ell (investigations) all did an outstanding jobs while assigned to these positions.

There are more tentative personnel changes coming stay tuned.

Update from HR

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic City offices are on limited access and staffing. Essential employees have continued to work, some on modified schedules. Some personnel who can work remotely have been. Other personnel have taken on additional duties. The City Safety Officer, Bailey Volk has been contributing significant hours to the County Emergency Operations. In addition to this he has stayed on top of City safety issues and has provided management with valuable insight that has helped us prevent internal spread of the disease.
Beautification Award

Years ago the realtors group in town awarded residents with a sign acknowledging the extra effort taken to beautify the community.

The Beautification Committee decided to breathe new life into the program. The committee worked with local artist Jeff Stewart to create a traveling award sign, that would be placed in the recipients yard for a month.

The award is another Beautification Committee partnership; the award is sponsored by Columbia Gorge Real Estate.

The awards will be given April through October; with a Holiday Decoration Award in December

To date 5 awards have been given:

Stephen & Vande Wegner  
317 West 12th Street

Linda & Gary Hanson  
910 East 11th

Mike & Carleda Tinkler  
914 East 11th

Jim & Kim Smith  
902 East 11th

Julie & Harley Newland  
419 East 10th

If you have noticed a yard that you feel should be considered please email the address to igrossman@ci.the-dalles.or.us for consideration.
ALL TOGETHER
THE DALLES,
Community Cleanups

2nd Saturday of each month
Meet at Thompson Park | 10 am

Organized by.

Come join Columbia Gorge Toyota, Honda and The Dalles Beautification Committee in an effort to put the shine on our town. Contact Rachel at (208) 757-3632 for more info.
City of The Dalles Meeting Dates and Locations:

We encourage citizens to attend meetings. All meetings are open to the public via ZOOM. Updates and cancellations can be found on the City's website: thedalles.org

City Council – Council Chamber 5:30 p.m. meets second and fourth Monday of each month, with the exception of holidays. Generally does not meet in August

Urban Renewal Agency – Council Chamber 5:30 p.m. third Tuesday of each month; as needed

Airport Board – Airport 7 a.m. third Friday of each month

Library Board – Location varies 4 p.m. on the third Tuesday

City Budget Committee – Council Chamber as needed and generally the first week of May

Urban Renewal Budget – Council Chamber generally first week of May

Museum Commission – Joint commission with Wasco County at PUD first Tuesday 7:30 p.m.

Historic Landmarks - Council Chamber 4 p.m. fourth Wednesday

Planning Commission – Council Chamber 6 p.m. first and third Thursday