BACK-TO-SCHOOL SAFETY

With the start of a new school year, it is important to think about safety for kids and drivers. Here are a few reminders:

Kids—Always cross the street at corners or crosswalks and obey the crossing guard's instructions. Whenever possible, walk with friends. There is strength in numbers and a group is more visible than a single pedestrian. Stay on sidewalks and do not cut through yards or alleys. NEVER accept rides or get into the car with people you do not know.

Parents—Walk the approved route to school with your child before school starts. You can assess potential hazards and pick a route with the fewest number of street crossings, ensuring that the route is safe. Also, you'll know where to start looking for your child if there is a problem while walking to or from school. Discuss with your child safe places to go for help, like trusted adults' homes, school and businesses. Discuss what to do if an unknown adult tries to get your child to come into his or her vehicle or house, or grabs them. Your child should say "No", scream for help, fight back if grabbed, get to a safe place and tell a trusted adult and call 911. Know who your kid's friends

are and where they live. Keep a list of addresses and phone numbers handy. Keep older kids active and involved in activities because studies show that after-school hours are the most likely time when teens get into trouble or try drugs.

Driving—Be aware of children walking and riding bicycles to school and use caution. Take extra care to look out for children, not only in school zones, but also in residential areas and around playgrounds and parks. Do not drive around school buses when the overhead lights are flashing red and the "STOP" sign is out. Use caution around transit buses as well. Pullman Transit transports school children. Children walking to or from their bus are usually very comfortable with their surroundings. This makes them more likely to take risks, ignore hazards or fail to look both ways when crossing the street. Obey crossing guards. Always stop when directed to do so by a school crossing guard. Be alert. Young pedestrians are the most difficult to see and are very unpredictable.

Neighbors—Keep an eye out for suspicious people or drivers who seem to be paying attention to children walking or at play. Report any older kids who are fighting or engaging in other illegal activities in parks and alleys before and after school. Keep sidewalks clear of debris or obstacles for pedestrians.

The start of a new school year is an exciting and busy time for families. It is up to all of us to be safe and watch out for kids.

Directory of City Officials

Elected Officials

Glenn A. Johnson .... Mayor
Francis Benjamin ..... Councilmember
Jeff Hawbaker ..... Councilmember
Fritz Hughes ..... Councilmember
Bill Paul ..... Councilmember
Derrick Skaug ..... Councilmember
Nathan Weller ..... Councilmember
Pat Wright ..... Councilmember

Administration

John Sherman ..... City Supervisor
Joanna Bailey ..... Library Services Dir.
Mark Bailey ..... IS Manager
Kurt Dahmen ..... Recreation Supt.
Alan Davis ..... Parks Superintendent
Pete Dickinson ..... Planning Director
Gary Jenkins ..... Chief of Police
Scott LaVielle ..... Fire Chief
Laura McAloon ..... City Attorney
Bill Mulholland ..... Finance Director
Karen Sires ..... Human Res. Mgr.
Mark Workman ..... Public Works Dir.

Phone: 338-3208• Fax: 334-2751
Police Nonemergency Services: 334-0802
Web address: www.pullman-wa.gov

Sidewalk and pedestrian clearance areas

Particularly when school is in session, vegetation that overhangs sidewalks or areas where people walk can be a problem for pedestrians. By law, the area which must be cleared of overhanging vegetation is seven feet in height above the surface of a paved walkway located in a public street right-of-way. In addition, all vegetation on the surface of walkways, whether growing or dead, must be removed or destroyed when it obstructs the public's full and free use of the sidewalk or pedestrian clearance area.

Please do your part to help the city to keep its pedestrian walkways free of debris and clear of obstacles. Contact the city of Pullman at 338-3300 if you notice areas that require attention.

Experts to share advice at Palouse Basin Water Summit

The annual 2012 Palouse Basin Water Summit will be held from 4:30 - 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 27 at the University Best Western Inn in Moscow. It is free and open to the public. An agenda and details are available at **http://palousewatersummit.org/**.

UPCOMING PARKS AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES

Thank You!

A special thank you goes to the 2012 Concerts In The Park Series sponsors: Washington State Employees Credit Union, HUB International, Jess Ford of Pullman, Avista Corp, Toyota of Pullman, Coldwell Banker Tomlinson, Pullman Building Supply, Timber Tech Decking and Chipman and Taylor Chevrolet.

Quality Preschool Education for Your Child

Pullman Parks and Recreation is accepting registrations in our preschool program designed for the pre-kindergarten student. Our program provides opportunities for young children to select, explore and practice various skills in a secure, creative and stimulating environment. Teachers plan developmentally appropriate activities that promote social, emotional, physical and cognitive growth. Our curriculum includes language, art, music, math, science, and movement activities implemented into monthly theme-based units. Children gain self-esteem and independence as they are treated with respect and encouraged individually. Our preschool is open to children ages 3-5. For more information call 338-3227.

Care-To-Share Fun Run

Register now for the Pullman Parks and Recreation 4th annual Care-To-Share Fun Run to be held Oct. 6. All proceeds will benefit the Pullman Parks and Recreation Care-to-Share program, which provides financial assistance to youth from low-income families to participate in recreation programs they otherwise could not afford. For a registration form or more information call 338-3227, email **recreation@pullman-wa.gov** or visit **www.pullman-wa.gov**.

Fitness Classes

Various fitness classes will start in early September. Detailed class descriptions along with times, dates, and cost can be found in the Pullman Parks and Recreation fall 2012 brochure or online at **www.pullman-wa.gov**.

Youth Sports

Spaces are still available in the youth soccer, volleyball and flag football programs. Practices begin the week of Sept. 10. Call 338-3227 to register. Fee: $35.

Beginning Bird Identification

Would you like to be able to identify the most common birds among the well over 200 species in our area and learn how to distinguish one species from another based on general characteristics? Join former WSU zoology instructor **Kevin Pullen** in the classroom and on a couple field trips. Class will be held from Sept. 24-Oct. 6 on Monday and Wednesday from 7-9 p.m. and Saturdays from 8 a.m.-noon. Pullman resident fee: $45/non-resident: $47.

NEW! Creative Melted Crayon Art I

Rather than everyday crayon drawing, learn to create two-dimensional art by melting crayons. After each class, your children will bring home a wonderful piece to decorate the house. All supplies are included in fee. Youth ages 5-10 are welcome to join. Class will be from 3:30-5 p.m. on Sept 10 and 17. Pullman resident fee: $31/non-resident: $33.

Transformers Club

Are you a Transformers fan? Would you like to meet with other Transformer collectors and glimpse all the cool stuff you could do in your Transformers Club? Transformers have flown to Earth from another planet called Cybertron to start an inter-universal war to obtain the powerful allspark. Come to have fun while learning and creating transformer previews, profiles, stories, comics and movies. Please bring a drawing pad or notebook and pencil. All ages welcome. There will be an informational meeting from 6-7 on Tuesday, Sept. 4. Classes will be held from 6-7 p.m. on Tuesdays: Sept. 11, 25; Oct. 9, 23; Nov. 13, 27; and Dec. 4, 11. Pullman resident fee: $40/non-resident: $42.

For more information or to register, call Pullman Parks and Recreation at

338-3227.

Fire prevention doesn't cost…it pays!

During National Preparedness Month, Pullman Fire Department and the U.S. Fire Administration want to remind you of the many steps you can take to make your home and your family safe all year long. Take a few minutes to walk through your home and use the provided information below to make sure your home is fire safe. If you need assistance with smoke detector placement or how to develop a fire escape plan, please call us at 332-8172.

Smoke alarms

- Place smoke alarms near every bedroom, preferably in each bedroom, and on every floor of the home.
- Test the batteries monthly and replace batteries once a year.
- Install smoke alarms on the ceiling or high on the wall with the top of the alarm not closer than 4 inches from the ceiling.
- Remember, when you are sleeping you lose your sense of smell. The smoke alarm is your nose when you are asleep.

Safe heating practices

- Keep all heaters at a safe distance from curtains, furniture and all combustibles and place them where they will not be knocked over easily.
- Fill kerosene heaters with K–1 kerosene only and never use gasoline or camp stove fuel.
- Plug electric space heaters directly into the wall socket and not into extension cord. Unplug them when they are not in use.
- For woodstoves and fireplaces, always use a protective screen. Clean interiors, hearths an chimney yearly.

Safe cooking practices

- Don't leave cooking food unattended on the stove.
- Keep dangling clothing away from burners and keep curtains and other combustibles away from the stove.
- Make sure the stove is off and small appliances are unplugged before going to bed or leaving the house.

Safe smoking practices

- Never smoke in bed.
- Keep ash trays away from upholstered furniture and curtains.
- Never leave burning cigarettes unattended.

Home fire safety

- Consider installing residential sprinklers.
- Replace wiring if it is frayed or cracked.
- Avoid overloading outlets.
- Extinguish all candles when leaving the room or going to sleep. Keep candles away from paper and fabrics.

Children and fire safety

- Keep matches and lighters away from children.
- Familiarize children with the sound of the smoke alarm and teach them when one sounds, to crawl low, leave the house and meet outside at the designated place.

Home fire escape plan

- Develop and draw a fire escape plan. Draw a diagram of the home. Mark all windows and doors, and plan two routes out of each room.
- Have a safe meeting place outside in front of the home and never go back inside.
- Call 911 from a neighbor's house if possible.

EVERYBODY READS

This year's Everybody Reads title, Border Songs by Jim Lynch, is available for checkout from Neill Public Library. Check it out before the author's visit in early November (more details about that in a future Community Update). Jim Lynch is a bestselling author from Olympia, Wash. Border Songs won the 2010 Washington State Book Award for Fiction. Other titles by Lynch include The Highest Tide and Truth Like the Sun.

Regular Library Programs

- ***Library Programs for Children***
  Due to staffing shortages, there will be no September and October children's library programs. We invite you to continue your weekly library visits to check out great books and other items for your family.
- ***Library Programs for Adults***
  Grand Avenue Book Club
  Thursday, Sept. 6, at 6:30 p.m. at Neill Public Library
  Book: *Evolution of Calpurnia Tate* by Jacqueline Kelly
  Good Yarns Group
  Knit and Crochet Group for all skill levels.
  Fridays, noon - 1:30 p.m.

Neill Public Library
210 N. Grand Ave. • 334-3595 • neill-lib.blogspot.com

LIBRARY HOURS
Monday 1-6 p.m.
Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Saturday-Sunday 1-5 p.m.

ACTIVE ADULTS

Wii™ Bowling Challenge

Register now to travel to Spokane for a season warm-up challenge against the Hillyard and Sinto Senior Center Wii™ bowlers. We will be taking 10 bowlers and eight rooters. Home pickup begins at 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 5. We leave city hall at 8:30 a.m. and return about 5:30 p.m. Fee [Pullman resident: $15/non-resident: $17] includes meal, transportation and escort.

Palouse Empire Fair Seniors Pancake Breakfast

Register now to join Colfax seniors for a nice breakfast at the Palouse Empire fairgrounds. Fair Director **Bob Reynolds** will be there to greet us. You will learn all the events that are going on during the annual fair. Home pickup begins at 7 a.m. on Thursday, September 6. We leave city hall at 8 a.m. and return about noon. Fee [Pullman resident: $7/non-resident: $9] includes meal, admission, transportation and escort.

Regional Theatre of the Palouse presents 'Oliver'

One of the most beloved British musicals ever brings to life the classic Charles Dickens story of a boy who asked for more. There's not a bad seat anywhere in this downtown Pullman theatre. Home pickup begins at 6 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 7. We leave city hall at 7 p.m. and return about 10 p.m. Register by Sept. 4. Fee [Pullman resident: $19/non-resident: $21] includes admission, transportation and escort. No refunds—tickets are pre-purchased.

Orofino Lumberjack Days

Celebrate the history and heritage of the timber industry and lumberjacks at this 65th annual Idaho show. We will enjoy the main parade, auction, skidding and truck driving contests, food and more. Home pickup begins at 7 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 15. We leave city hall at 8 a.m. and return about 6 p.m. Register by Sept. 10. Fee [Pullman resident: $20/non-resident: $22] includes admission, transportation and escort. The meal is not included.

Steve's Unique Shopping Trip

Our first Spokane stop will be Trader Joe's at the Lincoln Heights Mall followed by lunch at The Chalet Restaurant and then another stop at Huckleberry's Natural Market. Home pickup begins at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 18. We leave city hall at 9 a.m. and return about 5 p.m. Register by Sept. 14. Fee [Pullman resident: $12/non-resident: $14] includes transportation and escort. The meal is not included.

Steve's Mystery Trip

No one has been to this mystery location before. Join others who like to be surprised. Just be sure to sign up quickly, as this trip is our most popular trip offered and you don't want to miss it. Home pickup begins at 7:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 20. We leave city hall at 8:30 a.m. and return about 6 p.m. Register by Sept. 7. Fee [Pullman resident: $30/non-resident: $32] includes tour, transportation and escort. The meal is not included.

Spokane Interplayers presents 'Always, Patsy Cline'

This is a tribute to the very famous country western singer Patsy Cline. Cheyenne Nelson, in the starring role, will be singing all of Patsy's popular songs such as Crazy, I Fall to Pieces, Sweet Dreams and more. Our seating surrounds the stage and you feel like you're in the play. We will have lunch before the play at The Onion. Home pickup begins at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 23. We leave city hall at 9:30 a.m. and return about 6:30 p.m. Register by Sept. 10. Fee [Resident: $32/Non-Resident: $34] includes admission, transportation and escort. The meal is not included. No refunds—tickets are pre-purchased.

Boise sights in 4 days and 3 nights

We'll travel to Boise (Sept. 27-30) and take in the special beauty and interesting history of this city. A trolley tour takes in the most important historical sights, as well as the Old Idaho State Penitentiary, Idaho State Historical Museum, Idaho Botanical Gardens and Zoo. We also will visit the World Center for Birds of Prey and view a most unique collection of owls, eagles, falcons, hawks and condors. In addition, we plan to visit the Basque Museum and dine at some fine restaurants. Our lodging will be a 3-star hotel. Register by Sept. 7. Pullman resident fees: $395/double occupancy or $475/single occupancy; non-resident fees: $397/double occupancy or $477/single occupancy include lodging, admission, tour, escort and transportation. Cost of meals is not included.

NOTE: Many of these trips are listed in the 2012-Summer Parks and Recreation brochure and may fill up due to pre-registration. Call for info at 338-3307 or 338-3227.