

State of the City address given

At the February Chamber of Commerce luncheon, Mayor Eric Niemann gave the annual State of the City address and shared several insights to what he sees as positive things happening in the city. Over 50 attendees including business owners, volunteer organizations, and several high school students and parents listened attentively as Mayor Niemann congratulated the PHS State 4A Cross Country Champions and the basketball teams for their recent success. He thanked Philomath Express editor Brad Fuqua and congratulated him on issuing his 265th edition of the paper with over 2000 articles written since the paper began in 2015.

Mayor Niemann recognized and thanked the 30+ volunteers that serve on the city council and all the various boards and committees, including new city councilors Ruth Causey and Matt Lehman. He highlighted the success of the Citizens' Academy that has successfully graduated 27

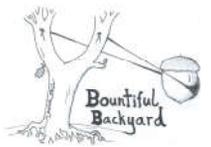
participants over the past three years, thirteen of whom are now serving on various city boards or committees. He then turned his focus on the growth that the state, county and city has seen over the past 20 years, specifically reporting on the Oak Springs Apartments and Boulevard Apartments. Oak Springs has completed construction and has 80 of its 84 units filled. Boulevard Apartments have constructed 14 of the 23 planned 6-, 9- or 12-plex buildings putting them at 43% occupancy. He also talked about the newly purchased bus the city acquired through a federal grant and recent changes to the bus route that are already showing signs of increased ridership.

Lastly, Mayor Niemann discussed the upcoming water treatment plant replacement and noted that the City of Jefferson, which uses the same engineer as Philomath, recently began construction of a very similar plant to what Philomath will be building. The mayor's full slide presentation is available to view at the city's website.



Coming This Summer!
Philomath Farmers' Market
Sundays: 2 to 5 PM
June 28th
through
August 2nd
In the
Philomath Library Parking Lot

Interested in being a vendor?
More information available at
bountifulbackyard.org/market

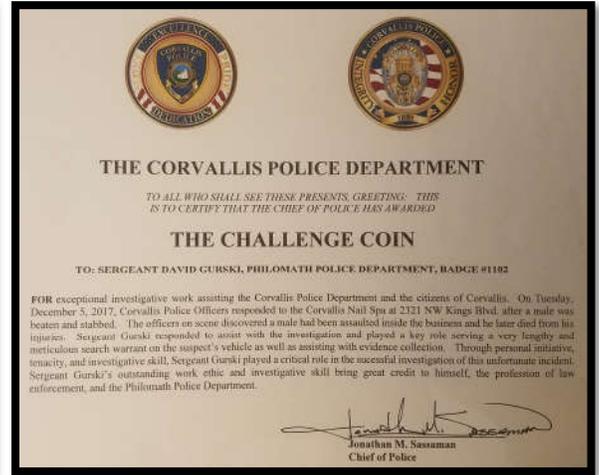


CITY MEETINGS & EVENTS		
Mar 9	City Council	7:00 PM
Mar 10	Police Committee	4:00 PM
Mar 12	Park Advisory Board	5:00 PM
Mar 16	Planning Commission (if needed)	6:00 PM
Mar 23	City Council (if needed)	7:00 PM

All meetings are held at City Hall, 980 Applegate St., unless otherwise noted. Schedule subject to change. Please refer to the City website calendar for up-to-date schedule.

Sergeant Gurski and Officer Moser recognized for outstanding work

The Corvallis Police Department recently awarded Sergeant David Gurski and Police Officer Grant Moser the Challenge Coin recognition for “exceptional investigative work assisting the Corvallis Police Department and the citizens of Corvallis.” The framed certificate they received in addition to the actual challenge coins stated, “On Tuesday, December 5, 2017, Corvallis Police Officers responded to the Corvallis Nail Spa at 2321 NW Kings Blvd. after a male was beaten and stabbed. The officers on scene discovered a male had been assaulted inside the business and he later died from his injuries. Sergeant Gurski [and Officer Moser] responded to assist with the investigation and played a key role in serving a very lengthy and meticulous search warrant on the suspect’s vehicle as well as assisting with evidence collection. Through personal initiative, tenacity, and investigative skill, Sergeant Gurski [and Officer Moser] played a critical role in the successful investigation of the unfortunate incident. [Their] outstanding work ethic and investigative skill bring great credit to [themselves] the profession of law enforcement, and the Philomath Police Department.



Philomath 2040 Comprehensive Plan Update gets underway



The City hosted a joint meeting of the City Council, Planning Commission, and newly formed Project Advisory Committee to kick off the Comprehensive Plan Update Project on Monday, February 24. Beth Goodman from the consulting firm ECONorthwest led the discussion with an explanation of the project’s purpose, the scope and schedule, roles of the Project Advisory Committee (PAC), Planning Commission, City Council and the public. She then gave several examples of the city’s existing policies relating to economic development and housing.

At the conclusion of the project, it is anticipated the City Council will adopt updated policies in both the economic development and the housing sections of the comprehensive plan based on the updated data collected and the recommendations made by the consultant, PAC, and Planning Commission. The Transportation section was updated following conclusion of the Transportation System Plan update in 2018.

The PAC is made up of residents, volunteers, business owners or managers and large property owners that will meet with and review the work performed by the city and the consultant over the next twelve months.

A webpage has been created to keep the public informed as the project moves along over the next year and a half. Interested citizens should visit the city website for additional information about the project including updates, meetings, and contact information. The slide presentation from the February 24th meeting is already posted to the webpage.

