

# LACEY *Life*

*Shaping our Community Together*

Huntamer Park Holiday Lights - photo by Arun Rohila Photography

## UPCOMING EVENTS

To see the complete list of events and get registration details, visit [CityofLacey.org/Events](http://CityofLacey.org/Events) or scan:



Please check our website or Facebook page for updates.

### **Dec 2** Signing Santa

Friday, December 2, 6:30 p.m.  
Chambers Prairie Elementary

### **Dec 5** Lacey Lighted Parade & Lighting of Huntamer Park

Monday, December 5, 6:30 p.m.  
Huntamer Park & Surrounding Area

### **Dec 13** History Talks! Excavating the Bush Homestead

Tuesday, December 13, 6:30 p.m.  
Lacey City Hall, Council Chambers & Online via Zoom

### **Jan 10** History Talks! "It's the Water": A Brief History of the Olympia Brewing Co.

Tuesday, January 10, 6:30 p.m.  
Lacey City Hall, Council Chambers & Online via Zoom

GET NEWS & UPDATES DELIVERED TO YOUR INBOX!



Sign up to receive email updates on a variety of City-related topics.

To register and select the topics that interest you, visit [CityofLacey.org/Email-Notifications](http://CityofLacey.org/Email-Notifications).

## 2022 LACEY CITY COUNCIL

- Mayor Andy Ryder
- Deputy Mayor Malcolm Miller
- Councilmember Lenny Greenstein
- Councilmember Michael Steadman
- Councilmember Carolyn Cox
- Councilmember Ed Kunkel
- Councilmember Robin Vazquez

CONNECT:

## LACEY BIDS FAREWELL TO CITY MANAGER SCOTT SPENCE



In early October, City Manager Scott Spence accepted an offer from the city of Astoria, Oregon, to be its next city manager. Scott has been with the City of Lacey for 23 years. He began his career in Lacey as director of public affairs and later became the assistant city manager before being promoted to city manager in 2011.

During Scott's time with the City, Lacey has grown from a population of 29,000 to over 58,000. With Scott's leadership during this time of exponential growth and change, the City remained financially sound. He also successfully managed the City through the pandemic — an unprecedented time — with the support of the City Council and his Executive Team.

"I feel truly honored to have been a part of Lacey for the past 23 years," said Spence. "This community is truly one-of-a-kind and will forever hold a special place for me and my family."

Scott cites establishing the Lacey Veterans Services Hub, expansion of the Senior Center, completion of the Lacey Food Pantry (part of the Thurston County Food Bank), formation of the Lacey Commission on Equity, numerous infrastructure improvements, and economic development initiatives, like the MakerSpace, as some of the highlights of his tenure.

The City is grateful for Scott's leadership and dedication to public service and wishes him well in his new position. A farewell celebration will take place on December 9. Watch for more details coming soon on the City's website.

### Next Steps

In early November, City Council appointed Community and Economic Development Director Rick Walk as the Interim Lacey City Manager. Walk has been with the Lacey for over 20 years. The City Council hired a consulting firm to lead a nationwide recruitment process for the next Lacey City Manager.

## NEW ONLINE UTILITY BILL PAYMENT SYSTEM COMING SOON: GET MORE DETAILS IN ENCLOSED LETTER

To better serve our community, we are launching a new, online utility payment portal in mid-December.

A letter with more information on this transition is included with this utility bill. You can also get details on our website ([CityofLacey.org/Utility-Billing](http://CityofLacey.org/Utility-Billing)) and social media platforms.

Questions? Contact our Utility Billing Department at (360) 491-5616 or [UtilityBilling@ci.lacey.wa.us](mailto:UtilityBilling@ci.lacey.wa.us).



## MAKE YOUR SEASON BRIGHT: JOIN US FOR THE LIGHTED PARADE & HUNTAMER PARK TREE LIGHTING – MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

Kick off the holiday season in a very bright way! Join us **Monday, December 5 at 6:30 p.m.** for our Lighted Parade, *presented by Interstate Batteries*. You'll see a variety of vehicles lit up with festive lights, including the Lacey Fire District 3's Santa Mobile — featuring Santa himself! Following the parade, join us for the annual lighting of Huntamer Park and Christmas trees — a beautiful sight you don't want to miss!



*Lacey's Lighted Parade is a great way to start the holiday season! We hope to see you there!*

**How ever you celebrate, the City wishes you a joyful season!**

If you are unable to make it to the event, you can visit the park to enjoy the spectacular holiday lights throughout December. And, while you're there, listen to holiday music and even hear Santa tell a story (instructions will be posted at the park)!

For details, including parade map and best viewing areas, visit [LaceyParks.org/Events](http://LaceyParks.org/Events) or scan the QR code.



# CITY HONORS RUTH WEIGELT WITH SPIRIT OF LACEY AWARD



In 2011, the City Council created the Spirit of Lacey Award to recognize exceptional contributions to the community. Since its inception, the award has only been given to four people.

During their November 3 meeting, the City Council awarded the Spirit of Lacey Award to Ruth Weigelt for her significant contributions to the betterment of the greater Lacey community. Ruth has been an active volunteer in a number of community

organizations in our area for over 50 years. Ruth served as one of the founding members of the Lacey Spring Fun Fair committee and has been chair for most of the festival's 35 years! But, her involvement in community activities doesn't stop there. She attends nearly all City events, has been the North Thurston Citizens for Schools committee co-chair since 2009, leading many levy and bond ballot-measure efforts, and has been involved in the South Sound YMCA for over 45 years, including being a current member of the Board of Trustees. The list of civic organizations, Ruth's been involved with, past and present, goes on and on!

**Thank you, Ruth, for helping shape our community over the years and definitely making it a better place to live, work, and play. You truly exemplify the "Spirit of Lacey!"**

## PARKSPLOATION: DEPOT PARK



**DEPOT REPLICA**

Lacey's Park System is one of the best in the State. It includes just under 1,200 acres of park land and open spaces, miles of ADA-accessible trails, hiking trails, several community buildings, and a premier regional athletic complex. And, it's right in our backyard!

Lacey Depot Park, the City's newest park, is located along the Karen Fraser Woodland Trail near St. Martin's University and serves as a focal point of the Depot District. The Depot building, the City's 50th Anniversary Landmark Project, is a near replica of the original depot that opened in 1891 in the same area. The building is open April – October\* for the community to use its indoor picnic tables (during park hours) and for private rentals on Saturdays and Sundays. The City also hosts a variety of community events at the park.

Park visitors and trail users can enjoy other amenities year round (during park hours), including:

- A train-themed play structure — the Lacey Rotary Club donated \$50,000 to the project in celebration of their 50th Anniversary
- Two restrooms (accessible from the outside of the building)
- Drinking Fountain
- Three Historic Markers — original Lacey Depot, Lacey Plywood Plant (both formerly located on this site), and a timeline of key events in Lacey/Lacey Rotary Club's history.



**PLAY STRUCTURE**



**HISTORIC MARKERS**

### Lacey Food Truck Depot

In addition to the features listed above, the park is home to the Lacey Food Truck Depot. A variety of food options are available and vary, based on the vendors' schedules. (Each food truck is an independent, small business and operates on their own schedule.) To get more details, visit the Lacey Food Truck Depot Facebook page or scan the QR code on the right.



### Learn More About Lacey Parks

To learn more about Depot Park and discover other Lacey parks and trails, visit [LaceyParks.org/Parks-Trails](http://LaceyParks.org/Parks-Trails) or scan the QR code below.



**LACEY PARKS**  
CULTURE & RECREATION



**FOOD TRUCKS**

### AT A GLANCE

Address: **5555 Pacific Ave. SE**

Hours: **7 am - dark**

Depot Building Open: **April – October**

Restroom Access: **Year round, during park hours**

\*We're working to open the Depot building for limited hours during food truck operations this winter and spring. Watch for more information coming soon.

## SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES

With the holiday season upon us, now is the perfect time to remind everyone how supporting local businesses benefits our community.

**Did you know ... for every dollar you spend at a small business, 67 cents stays in the local community.**

Even if you are unable to use their product or service now, purchasing a gift certificate from a local business for future use helps too.

### Shopping local:

- Boosts the Local Economy
- Creates Local Jobs



**It's the best of times, celebrating with friends and family....**



**Until someone pours the cooking Fats, Oils, and Grease down the sink and causes an expensive plumbing emergency! F.O.G. goes in the trash.**



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR! CHRISTMAS TREE ROUND-UP: SATURDAY, JANUARY 7**

The annual Christmas Tree Round-up will take place on **Saturday, January 7**, for community members who live in the Lacey city limits.

Watch for details in the January newsletter.

