

**Celebrate “TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS” in
Springfield on December 5th**

Annual Tuba Carol Concert
The Oregon Tuba Association
will present its free Tuba Carol Concert
at noon on December 5th,
at the Two Rivers/Dos Rios Elementary School.

10th and G Streets, Springfield

Free admission – first come, first seated

Enjoy the concert – and stay for the parade

The Springfield Community Parade Corporation non-profit organization will present the annual community parade “Twelve Days of Christmas” on December 5th at 1 pm in downtown Springfield Oregon. This year marks the 63rd Annual Springfield Christmas Parade!

Springfield’s 63rd parade theme is “Twelve Days of Christmas”. Each year, the committee members consider different possibilities for a theme, selecting a theme to be one that our entries can imagine and then envision as they make their plans. This year’s theme offers numerous images that can be part of the kick-off to everyone’s holiday season in the Springfield community.

The 63rd year’s Grand Marshal is a choice to honor a group of folks who have honored and served our regional community as well as our country. The Native American Veterans Color Guard have been selected to serve as our Grand Marshal. Their members are 14 veterans. Not only have they served our country in active service many years ago, but they continue to serve in the community. On numerous occasions throughout the past several years, the Veterans Color Guard has presented the colors at ceremonies, pow-wows, memorials, and events, just to name a few.

And, of course, through SUB’s elves and their secret contacts, Santa Claus has promised to visit the parade again this year. He will escort the finish of the parade and usher in our holiday season.

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MEETING CALENDAR

December 3, 2015

Wither the Minimum Wage

Two groups are pressing for a significant increase in the State’s minimum wage – one group seeking an increase to \$13.50 per hour, another seeking \$15. A panel of advocates for each group and for maintaining the current \$9.75 minimum, will present the various sides of the issue. **DISCUSSION ON THIS IMPORTANT TOPIC MAY EXTEND BEYOND 1:00 PM FOR THOSE ABLE TO REMAIN.**

December 17, 2015

Franklin Boulevard– Update

Although the City of Springfield did not receive the grant it *(Continued on page 2)*

PUBLIC CALENDAR

All items are tentative and subject to change
Springfield City Council

December 7, 2015

Work Session (6:00 PM) Gras and Weeds
discussion

Recess until January 11, 2016

Lane County Commissioners

December 1, 2015 – 9:00 am

December 8, 2015 – 9:00 am

Coburg TSP and Comprehensive Plan

December 15, 2015 – 9:00 am

Supplemental budget

December 22, 2015 – no meeting

December 29, 2015 – no meeting

Lane Transit District

December 16, 2015 – 5:39 PM

Willamalane Park and Recreation District

.December 9, 2015

School District 19

December 14, 2015 – 7:00 PM

sought for construction of the second phase of the Franklin Boulevard redesign, Phase I continues to be on the drawing boards for construction in the Spring of 2016 . The City continues to seek public input on the final elements of design and will update City Club on recent activity.

NOVEMBER MEETINGS

NOVEMBER 5, 2015

SKIP SANGREN, GENERAL MANAGER, THE SHOPPES AT GATEWAY

The most dominant power center between Seattle and Springfield – that’s the goal of Rouse Properties, the owner of the Gateway Mall, the now renamed Shoppes at Gateway.

Skip Sangren, the General Manager of the Shoppes at Gateway, briefed City Club members on the newly rebuilt Gateway Mall, the latest envisioning of the 37 properties that Rouse owns and operates nationwide. The basic idea is to create a streetscape type of mall, outward facing and friendly to pedestrians and bike riders. The redevelopment was able to add 45,000 square feet of leasable space, without changing the ratio of parking space to retail by eliminating the massive interior hallway and improving building efficiency. Over 80,000 square feet of space was demolished and rebuilt in the process.

The marketing plan for the Shoppes focuses on what the industry calls “first to market” retailers – those who do not already have a presence in the Springfield/Eugene area. The company anticipates that 145,000 square feet of space will be occupied by those new arrivals to the community – stores like Marshall, ULTA, and Panera Bread. Already, over 100,000 square feet of retail space has opened since August 25, and, according to their reports, activity is exceeding expectations. Future plans include attracting more first to market clients, and there is a clear focus on trying to attract upscale retailers who see the mall as an opportunity to enter the regional market. The company is also looking to add additional entertainment and restaurant options as the changes are completed. Still on the drawing board are four new free-standing outbuildings, one of which is already under construction. Many of these have committed clients, although Sangren was unable to

release names yet, because the companies prefer to control the timing of their announcements.

NOVEMBER 19, 2015

SHANDA MILLER, LANE COUNTY PERFORMANCE AUDITOR

Shanda Miller, recently appointed as the Lane County Performance Auditor, fills a position that was first created in 1985, but has been vacant for several years. Ms. Miller is a graduate of the University of Idaho, with a major in Environmental Science and a Master’s in Public Administration from the University of Oregon. She comes to the position from a position as a performance auditor for the State of Oregon.

Ms. Miller sees her role as evaluating the effectiveness of service delivery of county programs and, within that context of effectiveness, the efficiency with which services are delivered. As she comes up to speed in her new position she has focused on some internal responsibilities, including the development of a strategic plan and a risk assessment of about 30 programs. She is now in the final stages of setting up an anonymous tip line to solicit information on fraud.

Ms. Miller reports directly to the Board of County Commissioners and is advised by an Audit Committee established by the Board. The Board has designated a temporary audit committee as it seeks to recruit members of the committee, which will include Commissioners Leiken and Farr as members.

Ms. Miller anticipates that she and her staff will complete at least two performance audits during the coming year – including an assessment of health care management and services provided by the County, and analysis of the County’s financial situation based on an analysis of fiscal indicators using data from the County’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports. These were among the seven programs which indicated they were at the highest risk in the recent risk assessment. She expects that in the future, the office will complete at least three audits per year.

One of the challenges her office faces is the task of determining objective standards and metrics to assess programs where there is relatively little indication of the legislative intent in establishing the program. This means that, in some cases, her office will need to develop

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independent metrics based on best practices in other governments or industries providing similar services.

Ms. Miller said that draft reports produced by the performance audits will be reviewed by program staff, who will have an opportunity to comment and respond, and then submitted to the Audit Committee, with recommendations for future actions. The Audit committee then may refer the final report, which will be made public, to the Board for action. In some cases, Ms. Miller said, the reports may also contain recommendations to the State Legislature for action.

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