



Midland Matters

December 2002

PUBLIC MEETING - EVERYONE WELCOME - EVERY 1st TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Midland's Community Newsletter

What's New

Midland now has a website at www.MidlandNews.org. Those who use the Internet are encouraged to visit and use the site. There's a public on-line forum where you can express your opinions and discuss solutions, share historical information, talk about our streets, our crime, our wetlands, and



WWW.MIDLANDNEWS.ORG

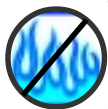
whatever else you want. You'll also find a community calendar, on-line classified ads for Midland, Safe Streets information, and much more.

Washington High Book Drive

Through December 20th, Washington High School will be conducting a Book Drive for ESL (English as a Second Language) students. New, or slightly used books for grades pre-K to 3rd grade will be gratefully accepted in the Career Center at Washington High. For more information, call Jacque Price at 535-9881.

Free Smoke Alarms

for the elderly and low-income individuals are available through Central Pierce Fire & Rescue. For more information, call 538-6400



Coming Soon

Midland Business Directory!

We're working on creating an on-line Midland Business Directory. Get listed by calling 536-8798, or e-mailing submission@midlandnews.org.

Santa's coming to Midland!

On December 14th from 5:00 to 7:00 PM, Santa himself will be available for pictures.

Enjoy cookies and coffee, and visit with your local fire-fighters at the Midland Fire Dept. (9512-17th Ave. E). Nonperishable food donations will be accepted for Central Pierce Fire & Rescue (CPF) Holiday Food Basket program, and new, unwrapped toys, will be accepted for the Toys for Tots program - both of which will benefit Midland families.

Daffodil Parade Float MEETING SCHEDULED!!

Monday, December 16th, 7PM at the Community Center. EVERYONE interested is welcome to attend the meeting to discuss this year's float design. Thanks to Tom Walwrath for allowing the use of his "yard" again where the float will be built. Last year's float building was a lot of fun - join in! Kids, seniors, anyone - there's something for everyone to do. Here's a little history on the *Origin of the Daffodil Festival* in which the float will, well, float!

Origin of the Daffodil Festival The Daffodil Festival, for all intents and purposes, was born on April 6, 1926 when Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Orton were hosts to civic leaders from 125 towns in Western Washington. The Orton's lived in rural Sumner and opened up their home for a garden party. The garden party was arranged so the guests could see the many varieties of daffodils in bloom in and around their estate. Among the many guests were the Mayors from Seattle and Tacoma. Major General Robert Alexander, Commander at Fort Lewis, brought a military band and a group of officers and their ladies from the Army post. After this first garden party, the event became an annual affair. Year after year, interest grew, (along with the ever expanding daffodil fields) until 1932, at which time "Bulb Sunday" came into being. The viewing of daffodils in bloom became fashionable, and, unfortunately created a massive traffic problem for Puyallup, Sumner and Orting, as up to 8,000 vehicles crowded the roads bordering the golden fields. No doubt, automobiles and owners were also vying for attention. The calamity of this congestion also brought a halt to "Bulb Sunday".

"Parade Year" 1934 was to become "Parade" year. Well known Tacoma photographer and first secretary of the founding group, Lee Merrill, suggested that the daffodil blooms, which at that time were thrown away or used as fertilizer, be used instead as decoration for a Festival Parade. Automobiles were decorated with daffodils, bicycles followed in like fashion and together paraded through our city and neighboring Valley towns. The presence of a mounted contingent of the finest riding horses in the area, prompted their appearance each year to follow. The idea grew and presently the Grand Floral Street Parade travels through four Pierce County communities on Parade Day - Tacoma, Puyallup, Sumner and Orting.

In 2003 the Daffodil Festival will be 70 years old, and there has been a parade every year since 1934, with the exception of the war years of 1943, 1944 and 1945.

Civic Pride our Pierce County Community has, for 70 years, viewed the Daffodil Festival as the premier headline event, second only to the Western Washington Fair. Every other major city in Washington State has a Festival and we in the community should be proud that the Daffodil Festival continues to be a significant event in the Pacific Northwest.

!!! Meeting Alerts !!!

Float Design Meeting
December 16, 2002 7PM

Next Public Meeting
January 7, 2003 7PM

Midland Community Center
1614 - 99th Street E

MIDLAND MATTERS

Midland Resident's Association
 Every month more Midland resident's and businesses join the Midland Community Association. Welcome to you all! Your \$10 membership fee gets you a membership card and monthly newsletter. The fee helps offset the costs of newsletter printing & mailing. You can sign up at the meetings or mail your check (payable to Midland Community Association to PO Box 12172 Tacoma, WA 98412.

Submissions:

Anyone with Midland related news, we encourage you to send us your stories, ideas, etc. Your comments, questions, and letters, are welcome.

Midland Community Association
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 www.MidlandNews.org
 info@midlandnews.org

Midland Community Association Board of Directors 2002-2003

Beckett, Cindy - President
 president@midlandnews.org

Hay, Tom - Vice President
Kempf, Mike - Secretary
LaDue, Lucile - Treasurer
Chambers, Dick
Liebig, Carl
McElhiney, Scott

Midland Matters is distributed on the 1st Wednesday of each month.

Committees Now Forming

Wetlands Committee: We will be watching and tracking the flooding and water flow in the wetlands here. Interested Call 536-8798 for more info. Meetings will be held at the Community Center.

Social Activities Committee: The rummage sale was a big success. What ideas do you have for other social activities. Call Lucile LaDue at 536-1010.

Special Thanks

Thanks to Summit-Waller's Bill & Tina Wolfe of Wolfe Construction, Inc. for donating the four-corners' Christmas decorations (and how-to's!), and to Eric Kotulan of Pacific Utility Contractors, Inc., for helping in hanging them on the poles! Great people, great generosity, great fun! Also, a HUGE thank you to everyone who attended the December Community meeting, who brought an impressive amount of food and toy donations to add to the Midland Fire Department's holiday donation drive. Thanks to you all!

Safe Streets

Anyone interested in establishing Safe Streets in your neighborhood is invited to attend this meeting. Tuesday, Dec. 3rd - 6:00 PM. Main Library branch (11th & Tacoma Ave.) in the Cascade Room. For more info. call Lisa Copp at 253-272-6824.

Safe Streets Campaign is a community resource specializing in organizing, mobilizing and empowering individuals, families and neighborhoods to work in partnership with law enforcement, schools, government and businesses to reduce and eliminate illegal drugs, gang activities and associated violence.

Please Support Your Local Businesses

FOUR CORNERS

99th & PORTLAND

Midland Crime & Incident Report

Type of Crime Committed	Year to Date as of September		Percentage of Area Total*		Yearly % Change
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2002
CRIMES (violent)					
Aggravated Assault	24	40	10.0%	13.1%	66.7%
Homicide	1	0	14.3%	0.0%	100.0%
Rape	3	7	8.8%	15.6%	133.3%
Robbery Total	9	6	8.2%	7.3%	-33.3%
(Armed)	(7)	(5)	(9.3%)	(11.1%)	-28.6%
(Strong Arm)	(2)	(1)	(5.7%)	(2.7%)	-50.0%
Violent Crimes Total	37	53	9.5%	12.2%	43.2%
CRIMES (property)					
Arson	2	3	4.8%	8.3%	50.0%
Auto Theft	153	97	17.3%	11.9%	-36.6%
Burglary Total	197	171	19.8%	16.2%	-13.2%
(Residential)	(138)	(113)	(20.8%)	(17.3%)	-18.1%
(Non-Residential)	(57)	(58)	(17.3%)	(14.6%)	-1.8%
Theft Total	525	453	(14.2%)	(11.8%)	-13.7%
(From Vehicle)	(210)	(194)	(15.2%)	(11.2%)	-7.6%
(Gas Station Runouts)	(47)	(52)	(9.9%)	(12.1%)	10.6%
(Mail Theft)	(52)	(16)	(22.9%)	(8.5%)	-69.2%
(Other Thefts)	(172)	(126)	(14.7%)	(12.0%)	-26.7%
(Shoplifts)	(44)	(65)	(10.1%)	(14.3%)	47.7%
Property Crimes Total	877	724	15.6%	12.6%	-17.4%
CRIMES (Assaults)					
Domestic Violence Incidents					
Assaults - Aggravated	12	17	12.6%	13.6%	41.7%
Non-Aggravated	78	106	11.3%	13.3%	35.9%
No Contact Order Violations	39	28	19.9%	10.9%	35.9%
Domestic Assaults Total	90	123			
CRIMES (Assaults Other)	117	138	10.8%	11.3%	-28.2%

This report was developed by the PCSD Crime Analysis and Information Unit. It is intended to be used for crime trend comparison use only. This is not the Uniform Crime Statistics Report, which is the official report of crime information and is distributed by LESA.

* Indicates the percentage of local area contribution to the entire East Patrol area for the indicated "year to date".