



MEDIA INFORMATION

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COVINGTON'S VOLUNTEER AND COMMISSIONER OF THE YEAR ANNOUNCED

Covington, Wash. – Covington City Council awarded the annual Volunteer of the Year and Commissioner of the Year awards at their Tuesday, February 8, 2011 Council Meeting.

Volunteer of the Year was awarded to Amy MacLurg. Amy is the daughter of a Covington business owner who began her journey at the Covington Aquatic Center by enrolling in and auditing the American Red Cross Lifeguard Training Course offered in the winter of 2010. Amy wanted to be a lifeguard, as other members of her family had been, and wasn't about to let her autism stop her from fulfilling that dream.

At the Aquatic Center, Amy helps keep the pool area safe and tidy by moving swimming and instructional equipment, and scanning the pool to help keep the water safe. She helps lifeguards enforce safety rules, and is an extra set of eyes watching for struggling swimmers. By volunteering at the Aquatic Center, Amy has helped increase awareness of water safety, autism in our community and the junior lifeguard program. In addition to the 476 hours of volunteer work at the Aquatic Center, Amy also volunteers at a local food bank several hours each week.

Commissioner of the Year was awarded to Sean Smith. Sean has served on the Planning Commission for almost two years and was elected Chairman in 2010. He assumed the difficult task of guiding the new downtown zoning development and design code through the implementation process with many public meetings and hearings, culminating with the Council adoption in September 2010.

As Chairman, Sean leads Planning Commission meetings – recognizing and encouraging public input in every aspect of the Commission's duties. This past year, Sean has volunteered a countless amount of hours while the Planning

Commission has been involved in numerous meetings and hearings related to implementation of the new downtown zoning and design regulations.

City staff nominates volunteers and commissioners who go above and beyond their regular duties to serve the citizens of Covington. All city staff then votes for those to be recognized as Volunteer and Commission of the Year.

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