



## HOME OF SANDY McNUTT

Squirrels come in a vast variety of forms. With more than 200 squirrel species around the world, they can be anywhere from 5 inches to 36 inches in length. They may be gray, black, brown, white or a combination of these. In fact, black, white and red squirrels can actually be gray squirrels.

Different squirrel species have different food preferences, but in general, most will eat plants, nuts, leaves, roots, seeds, and insects. Gray squirrels are one of the most common squirrels across the United States, they live in the hole of trees, most commonly White Oak, American Beech, American Elm, but they will take up residence in just about any tree.

In 1963, a local contractor, Amos Peters had an office facing the street and got tired of watching squirrels go to their death trying to cross the street to the other side. Mr. Peters had this brilliant idea that he would build a "squirrel bridge" to make crossing safer for the squirrel's. This tradition has been carried forward by a civic minded organization in Longview, better known as the "Longview Sandbaggers", and in 2010 the first "Squirrel Fest" was put into place.

Until 1983 the "Nutty Narrows Bridge" held it's sway, but it was starting to wear away. Up stepped the "Sandbaggers" and spruced up the bridge and provide the safe crossing for our furry squirrels. When Amos Peters passed away a wooden squirrel was erected near our R.A.Long, civic circle, Park, and next to our Longview Library in his honor for protecting the squirrels. The local Sandbaggers realized that the thoughtful Amos Peters idea of the bridge may not have been enough to assist our little friends and decided to add a bridge within the City of Longview Washington each year commencing in 2011. Each year the Sandbaggers provide the community,

guest from all around the region, including several visitors from around the United States and abroad, a great celebration in honor of our "Squirrel " friends

The celebration of Squirrel Fest each year continues to grow with local citizens, their children, guests from across the nation, and yes our little furry friends, "the Squirrels.". We believe it is with honor that the local "Sandbagger" fraternity petition the City of Longview Washington, to join in the celebration, started by Amos Peters, of our Longview American Squirrel's. We respectfully request that our Longview City Council declare our Longview American Squirrel, the Mascot of Longview Washington, giving our squirrel's the honor becoming each of them.

Respectfully

Longview Sandbaggers Fraternity