

# SAMMAMISH

ISSUE 148

CITY NEWSLETTER

OCT. 2014

## Construction moving along

### COMMUNITY AND AQUATIC CENTER TAKING SHAPE

Located, as it is, behind the library and downslope from 228th Avenue, the city's new community and aquatic center is making rapid but largely unnoticed progress.

Thanks to an early start this summer, and extended dry weather, the earth has been shaped by heavy equipment and many foundational elements are already in place.

"We're very pleased by the progress," City Manager Ben Yazici said. "We didn't run into any major soil issues, so we've stayed within a few days of our target schedule so far."

The 69,000-square-foot, two-level facility will feature two swimming pools, a pair of gymnasiums, cardio and group fitness areas, locker rooms, multi-purpose spaces, an elevated jogging track and a weight room, among other things. It's expected to open in early 2016.

The city is creating the new community amenity in partnership with

*See COMMUNITY, pg. 3*



*Mayor Tom Vance (right) discusses annexation issues at Sept. 10 open house.*

## Next annexation open house set for Oct. 15 at City Hall

After holding two open houses in the Klahanie area, the city will hold a third at City Hall to discuss the area's potential annexation to Sammamish.

This latest open house is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 15, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Residents of both Sammamish and the Klahanie area are invited to attend.

"Our first two get-togethers went

very well," Sammamish City Manager Ben Yazici said. "There was a very enjoyable give and take, and a nice exchange of information."

That formula will continue on Oct. 15, with Councilmembers, department heads and city staffers sharing documents and discussing information boards with attendees.

*See OPEN HOUSE, pg. 3*

**MAYOR'S MESSAGE**

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**VOLUNTEER!**

*Story on page 4*

**SYMPHONY**

*Story on page 5*

# MAYOR'S MESSAGE



*Tom Vance  
Mayor*

ON ITS WAY

A handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "Tom Vance".

# CITY OF SAMMAMISH

## *OPEN HOUSE, cont. from pg. 1*

“Our plan is to give Klahanie-area residents a chance to vote on annexation this April,” Yazici said. “Between now and then, we want them to have the best available information so they can make their minds up based on facts.”

If the vote is favorable, the Sammamish City Council will then pass an ordinance establishing the official date of annexation. Ideally, that date would be no later than Aug. 1, 2015.

“If we make that deadline, Klahanie-area residents will see a reduction in their property taxes in 2016,” Yazici said. “If we don’t, the reduction won’t take effect until 2017.”

Unfortunately, Sammamish isn’t in charge of the calendar. The scheduling of the annexation steps is largely dependent on how quickly King County processes move along.

Based on today’s numbers, the owners of a \$500,000 home in the annexation area would pay \$420 less in annual property taxes if they were residents of Sammamish.

For more information on the impact of annexation to Sammamish, residents are invited to go to the city website ([www.sammamish.us](http://www.sammamish.us)) and click on the “Klahanie Annexation” tab on the left side of the home page. They can also sign up for email alerts on the annexation issue by clicking on the “email alert” icon in the upper, right-hand corner of the home page.



*Deputy Chief Wes Collins of Eastside Fire & Rescue discusses fire services with residents at open house.*

## *COMMUNITY, cont. from pg. 1*

the YMCA. The Y is contributing \$5 million toward construction, will equip the facility, and run the day-to-day operations. Membership fees, services and programs will mirror those in nearby YMCAs.

Porter Brothers Construction of

Edgewood is building the facility for \$25,574,258. With sales tax, design, demolition, construction contingencies and other expenses, the total project cost is \$33,885,000. No new taxes were imposed to pay for the community and aquatic center. Funding was drawn from existing finan-

cial reserves.

At press time, almost all of the exterior foundations around the perimeter of the building were complete, and major progress had been made on the underground stormwater vault and excavation for the underground parking garage



*With the library on the far left, this is what the Community and Aquatic Center construction site looked like in late September.*

## Would you like to do your part for Sammamish?

Sammamish has been fortunate. Since incorporation in 1999, the city's boards and commissions have benefited from the energy, experience and expertise of many community-minded volunteers. And now, the city is hoping that good fortune will continue as it puts out the call for a new wave of volunteers to fill several openings.

Might you be interested? If you are, there are opportunities on the Planning Commission, Arts Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, and the Beaver Lake Management District Board.

For more information on the important work these volunteer boards and commissions do, go to the city website at [www.sammamish.us](http://www.sammamish.us) and click on the "Commissions/Boards" tab on

the left side of the home page.

If you are interested in making your city a better place, please send a letter of interest to City Clerk Melonie Anderson at [manderson@sammamish.us](mailto:manderson@sammamish.us), along with a resume and a completed questionnaire. The questionnaires are available online under the "Commissions and Boards" tab.

"We've always benefited enormously from the hard work our residents have provided on these boards and commissions," City Manager Ben Yazici said. "I appreciate it, and I know the City Council has appreciated it."

The City Council appoints the selected applicants. The application deadline for the open positions is Dec. 31.



## Volunteer opportunities!

**Oct. 11, 9 a.m. to noon, at Ebright Creek Park**  
Plant native trees and shrubs with the  
Washington Native Plant Society

**Oct. 18, 9 a.m. to noon, at Sammamish Landing**  
Help restore this important shoreline  
with the Friends of the Cedar River Watershed

**Oct. 21, 8:30 a.m - 3:30 p.m., Evans Creek Preserve**  
Help build the trail system with  
the Washington Trails Association

**Oct. 31, 2-5 p.m., at City Hall**  
"Halloween Happening"  
Get dressed up in your Halloween best and help  
hand out goodies to young trick or treaters

*(Sign up for all of the above on the city's  
events calendar at [www.sammamish.us](http://www.sammamish.us))*

## Please license your pets!

It's the law, it'll reunite you with a lost pet, and it's incredibly easy! Just go online at [www.king-county.gov/pets](http://www.king-county.gov/pets) and follow the prompts. Or go to Sammamish City Hall or the Sammamish QFC.

The annual cost: \$30 for an altered pet; \$60 for an unaltered pet. That's a lot less expensive than the penalty fine: \$125 for an altered pet; \$250 for an unaltered pet. Please renew every year. The fees help pay for the care of abandoned, lost or neglected pets!



*Can I please get a license like the other dogs?*

## Art event story coming



## Symphony opens season with renowned pianist Mark Salman

The Sammamish Symphony will begin its new season at Bellevue's Meydenbauer Theatre on Friday, Oct. 17, at 7:30 p.m., in the company of Master Steinway Pianist Mark Salman. The world renowned artist will perform Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue."

The symphony, an all-volunteer orchestra directed by R. Joseph Scott, is now in its 23rd season.

The season premier concert will also feature Copeland's "Fanfare for the Common Man," which was

written in response to America's entry into World War II and was inspired, in part, by a famous 1942 speech from Vice-President Henry Wallace in which he proclaimed the dawning of the "Century of the Common Man."

For tickets and more information on this season's symphony offerings, please go to:

[www.sammamish-symphony.org](http://www.sammamish-symphony.org), [www.facebook.com/SammamishSymphony](http://www.facebook.com/SammamishSymphony), or [twitter.com/SammamishSymph](http://twitter.com/SammamishSymph).



*The Sammamish Symphony*

## Halloween Happening at Sammamish City Hall!

It happens every year at City Hall – small but intriguingly costumed creatures wander through city offices demanding treats from frightened municipal workers. And, best of all, it works! Each year, the diminutive gnomes and sprites make off with loads of goodies.

If that sounds like fun, come to City Hall on Friday, Oct.



*Trick or treaters make their way through City Hall.*

31, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. It's inside, it's safe, and if past Halloweens are any indication, it's going to be lots of fun!

For older folks, if you'd like to dress up and help out as a volunteer, go to the city website ([www.sammamish.us](http://www.sammamish.us)) and click Oct. 31 on the events calendar. Just follow the link for "volunteer sign ups" and get ready for some fun!



*City staffers dressed for Halloween visitors.*

## Who you gonna call?

**WHEN YOU DETECT AN ILLEGAL DISCHARGE CALL 425-295-0500**

Do you know what to do if you see somebody dumping paint into a storm drain? If you don't, it wouldn't be unusual. A recent poll indicates that only one third of Sammamish residents know you should call the city immediately at 425-295-0500.

That will put you in touch with the Stormwater Management Team, the folks in charge of the "Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program (IDDE)". This program helps to track spills, educate residents, train staff and assess our progress as we strive to eliminate pollutants from our streams and lakes.

The dumping of soap, oil, chemicals, trash or any other material into a storm drain or catch basin is illegal and should be reported immediately.

After hours, call 206-296-8100. Please help us keep the waters of Sammamish clean!

## Recycling event on Oct. 25!

Want to get rid of motor oil, old tires, a mattress, or electronic equipment? Well, bring it to Sunny Hills Elementary School, 3200 Issaquah-Pine Lake Road, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Oct. 25.

Items that WILL NOT be accepted include scrap wood, construction debris, garbage, furniture, plastic toys, cleaning products or paint of any kind.

For further information, including a full listing of what's allowed, go to the city website ([www.sammamish.us](http://www.sammamish.us)) and click the date (Oct. 25) on the website calendar.



# CITY CALENDAR

## OCTOBER

### *Wednesday, Oct. 1*

-WTA at Evans Creek Preserve,  
8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.  
-Parks and Recreation Commission  
Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

### *Thursday, Oct. 2*

-WTA at Evans Creek Preserve,  
8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.  
-Senior Art Class - "Pushing the Pud-  
dle" watercolor workshop,  
10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.  
EX3 Boys and Girls Club  
-Planning Commission Meeting,  
6:30 p.m.

### *Friday, Oct. 3*

-WTA at Evans Creek Preserve,  
8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

### *Saturday, Oct. 4*

-WTA at Evans Creek Preserve,  
8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

### *Tuesday, Oct. 7*

-City Council Office Hour, 5-6 p.m.  
-City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

### *Saturday, Oct. 11*

-Volunteer at Ebright Creek Park,  
9 a.m.-12 p.m.

### *Saturday, Oct. 11 - Sunday, Oct. 12*

-Arts Fair, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.  
City Hall

### *Tuesday, Oct. 14*

-City Council Study Session,  
6:30 p.m.

### *Wednesday, Oct. 15*

-Klahanie Annexation open house,  
5:30-7:30 p.m., City Hall

### *Thursday, Oct. 16*

-Planning Commission Meeting,  
6:30 p.m.

### *Saturday, Oct. 18*

-Volunteer at Sammamish Landing,  
9 a.m.-noon.  
-Sammamish Walks at Beaver Lake  
Preserve, 10 a.m.-noon

### *Monday, Oct. 20*

-Committee of the Whole, 6:30 p.m.  
-Arts Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

### *Tuesday, Oct. 21*

-City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

### *Tuesday, Oct. 28*

-Finance Committee Meeting, 10 a.m.

### *Friday, Oct. 31*

-Halloween Happening,  
3-4:30 p.m.,  
City Hall

## NOVEMBER

### *Tuesday, Nov. 4*

-City Council Office Hour, 5-6 p.m.  
-City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

### *Wednesday, Nov. 5*

-Parks and Recreation Commission  
Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

### *Thursday, Nov. 6*

-Planning Commission Meeting,  
6:30 p.m.

### *Saturday, Nov. 8*

-Volunteer at Ebright Creek Park,  
9 a.m.-noon

### *Tuesday, Nov. 11*

-Veterans Day,  
City offices closed

### *Saturday, Nov. 15*

-Volunteer at Sammamish Landing,  
9 a.m.-noon

### *Monday, Nov. 17*

-Arts Commission Meeting,  
6:30 p.m.  
-Committee of the Whole,  
6:30 p.m.

### *Tuesday, Nov. 18*

-City Council Meeting,  
6:30 p.m.

### *Wednesday, Nov. 19*

-Youth Board Meeting  
5:30 p.m.

### *Thursday, Nov. 20*

-Planning Commission Meeting,  
6:30 p.m.

### *Thursday, Nov. 27*

-Thanksgiving Day,  
City offices closed

### *Friday, Nov. 28*

-Thanksgiving,  
City offices closed

## PLEASE NOTE:

All meetings and events at City Hall, unless otherwise noted. Times, dates and locations are subject to change. Please consult the city website for the most current information.



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Sammamish, WA 98075

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**SAMMAMISH CITY COUNCIL**



*Tom Vance  
Mayor*



*Kathy Huckabay  
Deputy Mayor*



*Don Gerend  
Councilmember*



*Bob Keller  
Councilmember*



*Tom Odell  
Councilmember*



*Ramiro Valderrama  
Councilmember*



*Nancy Whitten  
Councilmember*

**Homecoming parade on Oct. 10!**



Skyline High School's traditional homecoming parade will march up 228th Avenue on Friday, Oct. 10., beginning at 5 p.m. The northbound lanes of 228th will be closed between Discovery Elementary and the high school from 4 to 6:30 p.m. Two-way traffic will be maintained, however, on what are normally the southbound lanes. Motorists are encouraged to take alternative routes.

**CITY OF SAMMAMISH OFFICES**

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[www.sammamish.us](http://www.sammamish.us)

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- Nancy Whitten, Councilmember**  
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- Ben Yazici City Manager
- Lyman Howard Deputy City Manager
- Laura Philpot Ass't City Mgr/Public Works Dir
- Jessi Bon Parks & Rec Director
- Beth Goldberg Admin Services Director
- Joe Guinasso Finance Director
- Jeff Thomas Community Dev Director
- Melonie Anderson City Clerk
- Nathan Elledge Police Chief
- Bud Backer Fire Chief
- Michael Kenyon City Attorney

**Newsletter suggestions or concerns?**  
Contact Communications Mgr **Tim Larson**  
425-295-0555, [tlarson@sammamish.us](mailto:tlarson@sammamish.us)