

SAMMAMISH

ISSUE 127

CITY NEWSLETTER

JAN. 2013



In Appreciation:

*To the Chapin family for their presence on Dec. 18, 2012,
at the dedication of Stan Chapin Way,
a pathway forever dedicated to the loving memory
of our friend, guide and protector –*

School Resource Officer Stan Chapin



Family members, students and residents, along with school, city and law enforcement officials, gathered for the dedication of Stan Chapin Way.

Community honors memory of Stan Chapin

The new street sign is up, and if you blur your eyes a bit, it reads like a philosophy of life – Stan Chapin’s Way.

Significantly, that’s what two hundred people attending the street dedication heard all about – the way Stan Chapin lived out the values of kindness, commitment and care until he was taken a year ago at the age of 61.

The beloved school resource officer at Eastlake High School and Inglewood Middle School died unexpectedly last January after serving both schools for a dozen years. He was also approaching his 40th anniversary as a Deputy with the King County Sheriff’s office.

The dedication of “Stan Chapin Way,” a newly improved roadway

that runs from Northeast Eighth Street to Eastlake High School’s new northern entrance, is just the latest honor for Chapin.

Spontaneous displays of flowers, photos and personal messages appeared immediately after his death,

See CHAPIN, pg. 5

MAYOR’S MESSAGE

Page 2

FRIENDLIEST TOWN

Story on page 3

FINANCE EXCELLENCE

Story on page 4

Sammamish friendly to all species!

Our city was recently recognized by Forbes Magazine as being the “friendliest city” in the United States! While this is wonderful for our community, there is another friendly aspect of Sammamish that is not as widely known.



*Tom Odell
Mayor*

It is the joint effort by community organizations plus local, county, state, and federal governments to ensure the survival and restoration of the Lake Sammamish kokanee salmon.

This is a genetically unique fish that has had a long connection with the peoples of our region. Born in the local area, it spends its entire life within the waters of Lake Sammamish or its feeder streams.

A very few years ago this fish, which grows to a maximum length of perhaps 18 inches and maybe up to two pounds in weight, had dropped in population from tens of thousands to the point where only a few dozen returned to the streams to spawn. This was a result of urbanization of the area in the last part of the 20th century and conservation policies that favored other salmon species. Heavy pressure from sports fishing did not help.

By late in the last decade the species was under serious consideration for inclusion on the Federal Endangered Species List, an event that, if it were to happen, would have had serious implications for the future growth of the cities surrounding Lake Sammamish. Grass roots public interest groups like Save Lake Sammamish and Trout Unlimited combined forces with interested citizens and landowners, the Snoqualmie Tribe, the governments of the cities in the Lake Sammamish wa-

tershed, and King County, state, and federal fish and wildlife experts to form the Kokanee Work Group (KWG) in an effort to save what was affectionately known as “our little red fish.” Two of three distinct spawning runs were already extinct by this time.

Along with multi-year plans for habitat restoration and overall watershed improvement, a decision was made to trap some of the very few remaining kokanee at spawning time and attempt to supplement their numbers with hatchery rearing for the first time. Measures were also taken to ensure the purity of the unique genetics of the species.

During one winter spawning season about four years ago, fewer than forty fish were found in Ebright Creek. The following year over forty were collected there and taken to the Issaquah hatchery for spawning and rearing of the fry. That season was the first year of a 12-year, last-ditch effort to protect the remaining fish from potential natural disasters like washouts and heavy rains.

Several months later, 12,000 of the tiny fry, which were about an inch long, were released back into Ebright Creek, an event that I had the honor of witnessing along with others from the KWG. These fish take three or four years to mature for their only spawning run. During this time they do not leave Lake Sammamish.

We did the same thing the following winter but succeeded in getting only a (very) few more fish. These eggs were divided between the Issaquah hatchery and another hatchery as insurance. The decision to split the eggs was made after the Issaquah facility suffered storm damage which threatened the first years’ effort.

Again, the fry were released into Ebright and into two other creeks: Laughing Jacobs in Issaquah and Lewis Creek in Issaquah and Bellevue.

It’s far too early to declare success but the return this season is very encouraging with about over 5,000 fish counted in our feeder creeks with over half of them being spotted in Ebright Creek. More were seen in Laughing Jacobs, Lewis, Pine Lake, Zaccuse, Tibbetts and other creeks.

A major obstruction in Ebright Creek – a culvert with very high water velocity that was embedded in a pool deck straddling the stream and essentially damming it – was removed earlier this summer, effectively tripling the amount of water available for spawning. Sammamish resident Wally Pereya, owner of much of the property adjacent to the last mile of the creek before it crosses under East Lake Sammamish Parkway and the trail, personally funded the removal of the culvert. Wally, in cooperation with the KWG, is also helping restore the stream to a natural state as it crosses his property. He is to be commended for his contribution to the survival prospects for this unique Sammamish fish!

However, the survival of the Lake Sammamish kokanee is also a team effort of all of the interested groups and governments who are working together to ensure that we keep this important part of our community’s heritage. We are now seeing the first hopeful signs of success but many more years of our combined efforts will be needed to be sure of it.

As we proceed with the widening and repaving of the Lake Sammamish Trail we will continue to plan to remove other barriers that are preventing the Lake Sammamish kokanee from returning to its historic spawning grounds.

Sammamish truly needs to pride itself on being friendly to all species!



State considers I-90 toll between Bellevue and Seattle TOLL REVENUE WOULD HELP FUND IMPROVEMENTS TO 520 BRIDGE

Right now we have a toll bridge and a free bridge across Lake Washington. That could change if a lengthy review by the state finds that the I-90 bridge should also require a toll payment.

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) is undertaking an “environmental review of tolling” on I-90 between I-405 on the eastside and I-5 in Seattle.

As part of its public outreach, WSDOT will open a “Public Scoping and Comment” period between Jan. 22 and Feb. 22. There will also be “Public Scoping” meetings on Jan. 29, 30 and 31. For times, locations and further details, go to www.wsdot.wa.gov/Tolling/I90.

Following its analysis of the tolling option, WSDOT will hold a public hearing in November 2013 and produce “findings” in early 2014.



Will you have to pay a toll to cross the I-90 bridge on Lake Washington.

Forbes says Sammamish is “Friendliest Town” in U. S. MAGAZINE NOTES COMMUNITY EVENTS AND HIGH RATE OF HOME OWNERSHIP

Magazines seem to like Sammamish. The city is consistently ranked among the top 15 “best places to live” by Money Magazine, and now, Forbes has named Sammamish as the “friendliest town” in America.

Forbes issued the civic compliment late last year, noting that Sammamish scores very well in four categories, all of which apparently correlate with civic engagement and neighborliness: percentage of owner-occupied homes, crime rate,



A family crosses a quiet neighborhood street.



Residents make new friends at city's 4th of July celebration.

charitable giving and percentage of college graduates.

The Forbes article also noted the city's excellent school systems and community events such as concerts in the park, the farmers market and the annual arts fair.

“Our community must be doing something right,” City Manager Ben Yazici said. “We're happy to accept any and all compliments.”

\$4.5 million in budget for Town Center infrastructure

With the economy showing encouraging signs of life, and a framework already in place for private Town Center development, the city has set aside \$4.5 million to help pay for infrastructure improvements over the next two years.

In most cases, the city expenditures would depend on partnerships with private developers who would share the cost of new roads, sidewalks and storm water facilities, etc.

“The city will be a willing partner if the right criteria are met,” City Manager Ben Yazici said. “We are looking forward to the moment when market forces begin making the Town Center a reality. When that moment comes, the city will be ready to invest.”

The \$4.5 million is made up of:

- \$3 million for improvements to Southeast Fourth Street
- \$1 million for storm water facilities
- \$0.5 million for parking, trails, environmental review and a variety of other purposes.

Finance department wins “excellence” certificate

The city has once again been recognized for the quality of its financial reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA).

The GFOA is a non-profit professional association serving approximately 17,500 finance professionals in both countries.

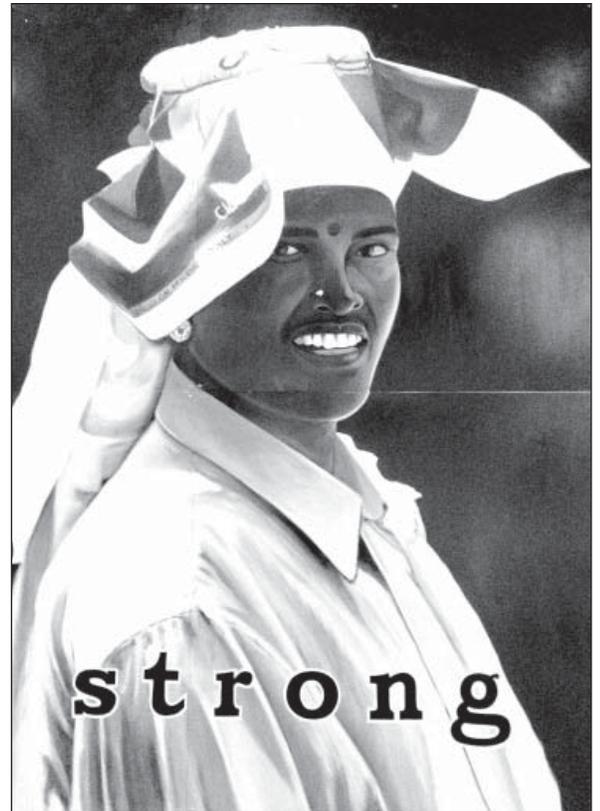
“We are very pleased that Finance Director Joe Guinasso and his team have continued this tradition of high-performance,” City Manager Ben Yazici said. “Since we incorporated in 1999, Sammamish has been recognized repeatedly in this way.”

The certificate is for “excellence in financial reporting,” according to the GFOA. It focuses on the clarity and quality of a city’s “comprehensive annual financial report,” and gives special consideration to a constructive “spirit of full disclosure.”

Arts off to a fine start in 2013

The Sammamish Arts Commission is kicking off its 10th anniversary with a trifecta of special events for residents who have an artistic bent. For more details, feel free to go to the Arts Commission Facebook page, but here are the basics:

- **A LEGO building event!** – This creative experience on Jan. 26 (11 a.m.- 3 p.m.) at City Hall will ask participants to use LEGO blocks to create their own 3-D visual expressions of Sammamish. LEGO artist Dan Parker will be there with displays and plenty of expert advice. To register for this fun event, go to www.ci.sammamish.wa.us/events/BuildItSammamish.aspx.
- **Make it a Clay Day** – Join the fun at the EX3 Teen Center as clay takes center stage on Saturday, Feb. 9, 1-2:30 p.m.. This class for special needs kids will be limited to ten participants and their guardians. To sign up, please contact Allison Gubata at agubata@ci.sammamish.wa.us.
- **On View Now!** – A very special art exhibit is now on display at City Hall. It features the work of Donald Fels, an internationally acclaimed visual artist who has worked with traditional billboard painters in southern India to depict hard-working, female construction workers. The exhibit runs through March 29.



This Donald Fels piece, entitled “Strong,” shows a Tamil rubble carrier wearing special headgear. The flat surface at the top allows her to carry heavy loads on her head.

CHAPIN, cont. from pg. 1

and a massive memorial gathering at Eastlake High School followed shortly thereafter.

The Dec. 18 street dedication featured remarks from Mayor Tom Odell, Eastlake High School Principal Brad Malloy, Inglewood Middle School Principal Tim Patterson, Sammamish Police Chief Nate Elledge and members of Chapin's family.

"It was a very nice moment," City Manager Ben Yazici said. "There were so many students and members of the community there to show the family how much everyone loved and valued Stan."

In addition to the street sign and a ribbon cutting for "Stan Chapin Way," the event also featured a plaque, delivered to the family, that read:

In Appreciation:

To the Chapin family for their presence on Dec. 18, 2012, at the dedication of Stan Chapin Way, a pathway forever dedicated to the loving memory of our friend, guide and protector – School Resource Officer Stan Chapin

The plaque was accepted by Stan Chapin's wife, Sue, their children, and

members of the extended family.

The city of Sammamish contracts with the King County Sheriff's office for police services. As a deputy assigned to the city, Chapin wore a Sammamish Police Department uniform and was based out of City Hall.

"Stan was such an upbeat, good-humored person, it was always a pleasure to bump into him," Yazici said. "Like everyone else in the community, we miss Stan very much. It was easy to see why there was such an outpouring of emotion from students and teachers when his time with us came to an end."



Members of Deputy Chapin's immediate and extended family stand beneath the new Stan Chapin Way sign.



Deputy Chapin's wife, Sue, and his son, Chris, listen as Mayor Tom Odell (right) helps dedicate Stan Chapin Way on Tuesday, Dec. 18.

City Council reviews staff report on Ace Hardware

At press time, a city staff report on Ace Hardware was due to be presented to the City Council on Jan. 8. This came after the Council directed staff to continue working with an Ace Hardware development team that wants to build on a new site next to 228th Avenue and George Davis Creek.

Although the site has numerous environmental constraints, the city staff has been working closely with the applicant in pursuit of a solution.

The hardware store, currently located nearby in the Sammamish Highlands Shopping Center, has been unable to work out a new lease agree-

ment. Although the city helped facilitate a one-year extension, the current lease runs out in August.

The city first learned of the lease problems in November 2011. Despite hundreds of hours of help and consultation from the city, the hardware store is still looking for a workable solution.

Members of city boards and commissions honored VITAL VOLUNTEERS ATTEND SPECIAL DINNER AT CITY HALL

As it does every year, the city took time to provide dinner and some much deserved recognition to members of its boards and commissions. The Dec. 10 banquet at City Hall honored members of the Planning Commission, Parks Commission, Arts Commission, Sammamish Youth Board, and Beaver Lake Management District.

“The work they do is so important, and the volunteer hours they put in are so impressive, we’re always delighted to thank them in this way,” City Manager Ben Yazici said. “Our city couldn’t operate as well as it does without their help.”

One of the highlights of the evening was the naming of two “volunteers of the year” for 2012. The

two recognized were Arts Commission Chair Daphne Robinson and Parks Commissioner Larry Crandall. Robinson, one of the city’s original arts commissioners, is responsible

for, among other things, the annual arts fair and the quarterly exhibits inside City Hall.

Crandall began his duty on the Parks Commission in 2008. He has since served as liaison to the Farmers Market steering committee and the Community Garden steering committee.

“Both Daphne and Larry exemplify the kind of energy, enthusiasm, and commitment we rely on so much in Sammamish,” Yazici said. “We’re very grateful to them.”



Arts Commission Chair Daphne Robinson and Parks Commissioner Larry Crandall (second from right) were honored as the 2012 “volunteers of the year.” They are joined here by Deputy Mayor John James (left) and Mayor Tom Odell (right).

Eagle Scout Project options to be discussed at City Hall

Young men looking for opportunities to fulfill their Eagle Scout project requirement are welcome to come to City Hall on Tuesday, Jan. 29, 4-6 p.m.

During the two-hour session, scouts will hear from the city’s Parks and Public Works Department. An array of non-profit organizations will also be present to explore project options.

“Each year we have individuals who find opportunities for their project after discussing their interests and hearing about options from the city and the non-profits,” Sammamish Volunteer Coordinator Dawn Sanders said. “This is a major step for a scout, so we try to provide an appropriate and interesting challenge.”

For more information on the Eagle Scout project meeting, contact Sanders at dsanders@ci.sammamish.wa.us or 425-295-0556.

Just click to view past City Council meetings

If you missed the City Council meeting of your choice on Sammamish 21 TV, and you don’t want to wait for the next time it airs, just go to the city website for an immediate opportunity to see your local elected officials in action.

Here’s the process:

- Go to www.ci.sammamish.wa.us.
- Scroll down to the lower left-hand corner of the home page and locate the calendar.
- Open up the calendar to the proper month.
- Click on the meeting you want to watch.
- Scroll down to the bottom of the meeting page and click on “Play event video.”

CITY CALENDAR

JANUARY

Tuesday, Jan. 1

New Year's Day, City offices closed

Wednesday, Jan. 2

Parks and Rec Comm Mtg, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 8

City Council Special Mtg, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 11

Public Safety Committee Mtg, 3 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 14

Arts Commission Mtg, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 15

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

Wednesday, Jan. 16

Sammamish Youth Board Mtg, 6 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 17

-Planning Commission Mtg, 6:30 p.m.
-Community Garden Steering
Committee, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 21

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
City offices closed

Tuesday, Jan. 22

City Council Special Mtg, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 24

Planning Commission Mtg, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 26

"Build it Sammamish"
A LEGO Building Event, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 28

Pine Lake Park Clean Up, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 29

Eagle Scout Projects, 4-6 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 31

-Planning Commission Mtg, 6:30 p.m.
-City Council Retreat, 6-9 p.m.
Cle Elum (Suncadia)

FEBRUARY

Friday, Feb. 1

City Council Retreat, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Cle Elum (Suncadia)

Saturday, Feb. 2

City Council Retreat, 8 a.m. - noon
Cle Elum (Suncadia)

Wednesday, Feb. 6

Parks and Rec Comm Mtg, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 7

Planning Commission Mtg, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 9

"Make it a Clay Day", 1-2:30 p.m.
EX3 Boys and Girls Club

Monday, Feb. 11

Arts Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 12

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

Wednesday, Feb. 13

Sammamish Youth Board Mtg, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 19

City Council Special Mtg, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 21

-Planning Commission Mtg, 6:30 p.m.
-Community Garden Steering
Committee, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 25

Finance Committee Mtg, 5:30-6:15 p.m.

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.

Keep your family safe when storms bring heavy rain

Although a drizzle is more common in Sammamish than a drenching rain, there are times when the skies really open up and let us have it. To help your neighborhood and keep your family safe during a rainstorm, here are some do's and don'ts:

- Report flooded streets and clogged catch basins by calling the city of Sammamish Stormwater Team at 425-295-0573.
- Don't drive your vehicle through flooded streets and avoid all needless trips.
- Stay away from downed power lines and electrical wires.
- Do not attempt to walk across a flowing stream. Even shallow water can sweep you off your feet.
- Stay away from storm drain channels and areas subject to sudden flooding.
- Check your property, clearing all private drains and rain gutters and disposing of all trash and yard clippings.
- Cover toxic materials with tight-fitting lids and/or store them indoors.
- Clean up any automotive spills or leaks.



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*Tom Odell
Mayor*



*John James
Deputy Mayor*



*John Curley
Councilmember*



*Don Gerend
Councilmember*



*Ramiro Valderrama
Councilmember*



*Tom Vance
Councilmember*



*Nancy Whitten
Councilmember*

Toys for Tots!



Sammamish Police Chief Nathan Elledge and Deputy Amy Jarboe of the King County Sheriff's Office are surrounded on Dec. 14 by a pile of generous donations to the U. S. Marine Corps "Toys for Tots" program.

CITY OF SAMMAMISH OFFICES

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Lyman Howard	Deputy City Manager
Kamuron Guroi	Com Dev Dir/Asst City Mgr
Joe Guinasso	Finance Director
Laura Philpot	Public Works Director
Jessi Bon	Parks & Rec Director
Mike Sauerwein	Admin Services Director
Melonie Anderson	City Clerk
Nathan Elledge	Police Chief
Wes Collins	Fire Chief
Bruce Disend	City Attorney

**Newsletter suggestions or concerns?
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