

SAMMAMISH

ISSUE 71

CITY NEWSLETTER

MAY 2008

Farmers Market opens May 21

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LAUNCHES CITY'S FIRST AT SAMMAMISH COMMONS

The fruit, the vegetables and the flowers are still on the vine or in the ground, but come Wednesday, May 21, they'll be offered up in a cornucopia of natural delights just south of City Hall.

It's the city's first farmers market, a much-anticipated event that will unfold in the Sammamish Commons plaza thanks to the hard work of the Sammamish Chamber of Commerce and all the farmers and vendors they've recruited for the big day.

Dawn Sanders, the chamber president who also serves as the city's volunteer coordinator, is looking forward to a great event.

"The chamber has put a lot of work into this since the city asked us to partner with them and organize the event," Sanders said. "Our farmers market director, Heidi Bohan, is very experienced and has brought in some very

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After a lot of digging, Lexi Szymaszek and Lexi Files hold up an invasive blackberry root.

Students preserve sensitive ravine

Just west of City Hall, a steep slope needed help. The remnants of blackberry bushes and other invasive species had to go, and new native plants needed to move in.

So, the city relied on a small army of local teens to get the job done. In March and April, students between 14 and 18 years of age went to work as part of a city volunteer program.

"It was great to see the kids digging in and making a difference," Dawn Sanders, the city's volunteer coordina-

tor, said. "This ravine is going to be a lot healthier and much less susceptible to erosion now. Beyond that, it was a great environmental learning experience for the kids."

The reforestation project, which also involved meeting with city planners, contributing to a project webpage, and taking a field trip to a wetland restoration site, was funded by the King Conservation District and the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks.

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FOURTH ON THE PLATEAU

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Lee Fellingge
Mayor

Our new library is on its way!

During the first week of March, 2008, the city of Sammamish and the King County Library System finalized an agreement for our new library. It is hoped that construction will start before year end.

The architectural plans are exciting. Our new library will total 19,500 square feet, almost twice the size of our current library's 10,000 square feet.

Alongside the meeting room, cyber bar, and teen area, a large expanse of windows will overlook the City Hall plaza. Below the windows, a seat wall, landscaped zone and vertical green plantings will greet visitors in the plaza.

The library's main reading and stack area will contain skylights and clerestories to reduce the need for artificial lighting and create a warm and inviting space. This main space will terminate

in a great reading room featuring windows with views to the west overlooking the nature preserve, Olympic Peninsula and Seattle skyline. A fireplace will provide a central gathering point in this great reading room.

Wood elements will be featured throughout the library, including in the entry lobby, meeting rooms, ceilings and lower column enclosures.

The children's area will overlook the new Eastern lawn which includes a reflexology path, native plantings, and a grove of birch trees.

Sustainable (Green) design practices have been a top priority in the development of the site and the building. In order to reduce the impervious surface on the site, parking is located under the building with an elevator to access the library floor.

In addition, the library's lower roof features low maintenance native sedum planting to reduce water runoff from the roof. Water runoff from the exposed parking area will be infiltrated into the site through pervious surfaces

and an onsite rain garden.

The new library will feature a highly insulated and efficient building envelope designed to reduce heat gain and loss while maximizing passive solar gain and day lighting. The primary cooling and heating for the building will be through a radiant slab with a mechanically assisted ventilation system.

The construction of the new library is the end result of a lot of thought, negotiation and compromise. Construction costs have risen dramatically since the funding package was approved in 2004, and other cities were competing for parts of the same funding. In addition to the financial challenges, it also took some doing to come up with the right site and an appropriate design.

But that's behind us now, and soon we will have another jewel in the Sammamish Commons and Town Center crown!

FARMERS, cont. from pg. 1

good producers and vendors. It should be a great inaugural event."

The Sammamish farmers market will continue every Wednesday for twenty weeks, wrapping up on Oct. 1. Hours will be from 4 to 8 p.m.

"Heidi did a lot of research to arrive at this schedule," Sanders said. "People wanted it to be late in the day so they could drop in after work."

A weekend schedule wasn't feasible because both Issaquah and Redmond have their markets on Saturday.

"It was decided there just weren't enough farmers and vendors to support three markets in close proximity on the same day," Sanders said.

In addition to the fresh fruit, vegetables and flowers, the market will feature a honey vendor, arts and crafts, live music and plenty of hot food, including



pizza from an on-site wood-fired oven.

"Our focus is on the farmers, naturally, but we will have a variety of other attractions as well," Sanders said. "We'll start the season off with 25 vendors and grow from there as the year goes on."

Prospective vendors who would like to participate are asked to visit www.sammamishfarmersmarket.org to learn more about the application process.

Residents who would like to volunteer their help with the farmers market are asked to send an email to Heidi Hodges at sfm@hotmail.com.

"We think it's going to become a great community tradition," Sanders said. "We can't wait until May 21."

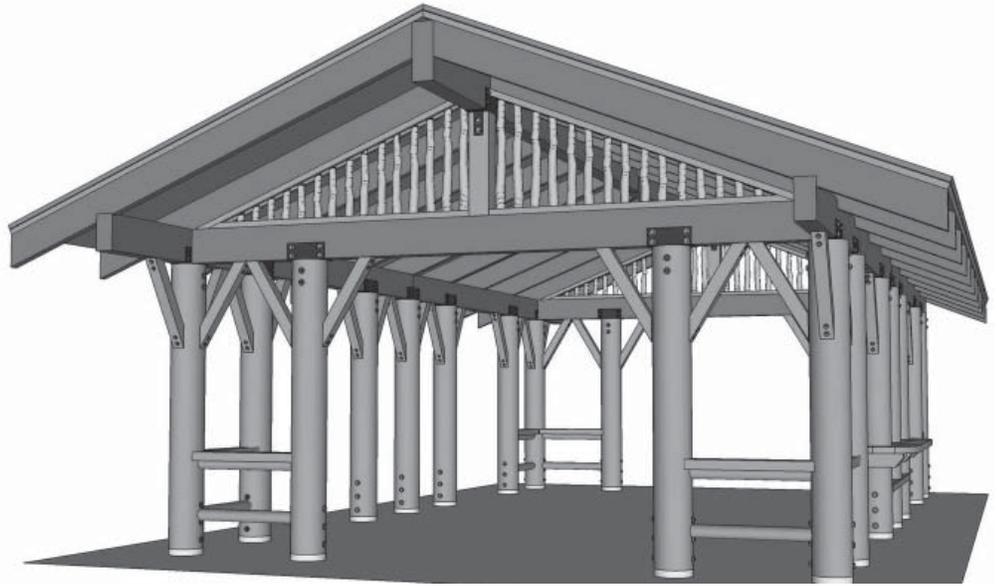
Pine Lake Park improvements

The second phase of improvements to Pine Lake Park is underway with the construction of three new picnic shelters.

The shelters – one large enough for 40 people, the other two large enough for 16 people each – are going up in a wooded area near the current play area. The shelters are expected to be open for use sometime in mid-summer.

“The designs are really compatible with the park environment,” Parks Director Jessi Richardson said. “They have big wooden timbers and a real rustic feel, just like Pine Lake Park itself.”

This phase of improvements is split into two parts. Phase II-A will



build the new shelters. Phase II-B will focus on improvements to the shoreline and dock area.

“We’ll start on the shoreline and dock work after Labor Day, so that won’t interfere with this year’s summer swimming season,” Richardson

said, “and we’ll finish up before the swimming season starts in 2009.”

The original Phase I improvements to Pine Lake Park, completed in 2004, renovated the ball field, created a new parking lot, and added a sports court, among other things.

Sculpture Dedication set for Tuesday, May 20th

ARTS COMMISSION EVENT HIGHLIGHTS PUBLIC ART IN SAMMAMISH

The city’s Arts Commission is inviting residents to the dedication of “Confluence,” a sculpture recently placed at the eastern edge of the City Hall plaza. The event, which begins at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 20, will also feature other art pieces by Debbie Young, the sculptor who created “Confluence.”

In addition to sharing her art, Ms. Young will bring a storyboard of the art process that produced the City Hall sculpture. The public is invited to learn, participate in the dedication, and celebrate this important piece of public art.

During the dedication event at City Hall, refreshments will be served and music will be provided by the Sammamish Symphony Quartet.



Debbie Young’s “Confluence.”



City Council thanks Dino Rossi

FORMER STATE SENATOR PROTECTED FUNDING FOR FLYOVER RAMP, STATE ROUTE 202 IMPROVEMENTS

Noting that the flow of traffic north of Sammamish is improving thanks to state-funded projects on State Route 202 and State Route 520, the City Council took a moment on April 1 to thank Dino Rossi.

As the former Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee in the Washington State Senate, Rossi was instrumental in protecting the funding for those projects.

“We went to Olympia to lobby for these projects over several years,” City Manager Ben Yazici said. “When the funding appeared to be in jeopardy, nobody worked harder to preserve the

projects than Dino Rossi.”

Among other things, the funding paid for a flyover ramp that takes westbound drivers off State Route 202, carries them over two traffic lights, and deposits them directly onto State Route 520.

“The flyover, the widening of State Route 202, and other improvements are making a real difference for drivers who need to leave or enter Sammamish at the north end of town,” Yazici said.

To commemorate his contribution, Rossi received a special plaque of recognition from Sammamish Mayor Lee Felling.

Dino Rossi at April 1 City Council meeting.

Lambert recognized for landing Soaring Eagle

When the King County Council voted March 10 to transfer 30 acres of Soaring Eagle park into city hands, it capped many years of work and negotiation by the City Council and city staff.

But they couldn't have done it without a powerful and determined ally on the county side. Recognizing that fact, the city presented King County Councilmember Kathy Lambert with a special plaque of recognition.

“Years from now, when our residents are enjoying active recreation facilities on those 30 acres, they should think of Kathy,” City Manager Ben Yazici said. “She was really the key player.”

Soaring Eagle Park, a square mile of county land located along the city's eastern border, features walking trails and forest land. After the 30 acres are transferred to the city, the park will still boast more than 600 acres of open space.



King County Councilmember Kathy Lambert and Sammamish Mayor Lee Felling at the April 1 Sammamish City Council meeting.

Would you like to help the city's wetlands and streams?

If you're like most people in Sammamish, you probably live fairly close to a wetland, stream, or other sensitive area. And like many others, you may have also called the city to ask what the rules are and what you can do to preserve the community's environment.

Now, thanks to an initiative launched by Kathy Curry, the city's wetland biologist, and Dawn Sanders, the city's volunteer coordinator, Sammamish is going to formalize a "Volunteer Environmental Stewardship Program."

"This program will help groups of residents to organize and care for sensitive areas in their neighborhoods," Curry said. "The city will identify wetland boundaries, provide guidance on restoration projects, offer educational materials, and a variety of other resources.

"We can bring in guest speakers, give people information on environmentally friendly yard practices, and in general help them pursue their environmental goals. We think this could be a great program."

For more information, contact Dawn Sanders at 425-295-0556 or dsanders@ci.sammamish.wa.us.



Wetland Biologist Kathy Curry in her element.

City needs your feedback on stormwater plan

As part of its stormwater management plan process, the city is required to ask for public comment on its annual update to the plan. The draft version of that update can be viewed on the city website (www.ci.sammamish.wa.us) by going to the Public Works Department page.

"We would really appreciate it if people would take some time to look at the plan and tell us what they think," said Public Works Director John Cunningham. "After looking at the website material, residents can just click on an email address there and send us their thoughts."

This update to the plan is part of living up to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, a federal permit the enforcement of which has been delegated to the state's Department of Ecology (DOE).

"Like all cities, we need to submit an update that shows we're making appropriate progress toward the required standards," Cunningham said. "It's all part of a federal, state and local effort to improve and maintain water quality."

Bikes for Africa

Sammamish Commons will once again be a drop-off point for bicycles bound for Africa. A non-profit organization that collects and ships the bikes overseas will gather up the donations from 9:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 17, at 801 228th Ave. N.E.

"This is a great opportunity to donate a bike you're not using anymore," said Deputy City Manager Pete Butkus. "Not only do you help someone in Africa, you get to clear out some extra space in your garage."

For those who will be out of town on May 17, limited space is available for early dropoff on Friday, May 16. No dropoffs will be accepted before Friday.



PROJECT UPDATES:

More information available online at
www.ci.sammamish.wa.us

East Lake Sammamish Parkway

Northeast: The design team is hard at work on the final design of the initial segment from Inglewood Hill Road to just south of NE 28th Place. Current work includes environmental permit submittals, utility coordination, and intersection layout at Inglewood Hill Road. Soon, members of the design team will meet with individual property owners to discuss and coordinate specific design details associated with their frontage along ELSP. Construction of this first phase is scheduled for 2009 and is estimated at \$17 million (including construction, design, and environmental analysis). Key features of this project include widening the roadway to three lanes to add a center turn lane or landscaped median, bike lanes, and a sidewalk on only the east side. The remaining two segments will be designed and constructed in future years. Project manager Jeff Brauns can be reached at jbrauns@ci.sammamish.wa.us

wa.us or 425-295-0561.

212th Avenue Southeast Sidewalk:

This project will construct sidewalk along the west side of 212th Ave SE in the vicinity of Ebright Creek Park and close the existing gap between the park and the Crossing at Pine Lake subdivision to the south. Construction is scheduled for late 2008 or 2009. Project manager Sevda Baran can be reached at sbaran@ci.sammamish.wa.us or 425-295-0553.

Southeast 24th St. Pedestrian Path:

The City is in the planning stages for a soft surface pedestrian path along the south side of SE 24th St from 204th Ave SE to 212th Ave SE. This project will be constructed this summer. Additional information is available from Charlie Simpson at csimpson@ci.sammamish.wa.us or 425-837-4633.



Traffic along the East Lake Sammamish Parkway north of Inglewood Hill Road.

Managers serve staff surprise breakfast

When they filed into the Council Chamber for their monthly all-staff meeting on April 1, city employees were greeted by what may have seemed like an April Fool's prank.

There were flowers on the tables, and all the city directors and managers were serving pancakes, bacon and fresh fruit.

"It wasn't an April Fool's stunt," City Manager Ben Yazici said. "We sincerely wanted to show our employees how much the hard work they do for the community is appreciated."

Wearing aprons as they flipped flapjacks and poured syrup, the managers asked the staff to vote for the morning's "best apron."

The winner: Finance Director Lyman Howard in a stunning floral print.



Finance Director Lyman Howard, fresh from cooking mounds of bacon, models his winning apron as the other directors and managers at City Hall look on.

CITY HALL CALENDAR

MAY

Thursday, May 1

Planning Commission Mtg, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 6

City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 13

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

Wednesday, May 14

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

Thursday, May 15

Planning Commission Mtg, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, May 19

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

Tuesday, May 20

Sculpture Dedication, 5:30-8 p.m.

Sammamish Commons Plaza

City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 21

Farmers Market Grand Opening, 4-8 p.m.

Sammamish Commons Plaza

Sammamish Youth Board Mtg, 6 p.m.

Monday, May 26

Memorial Day (City offices closed)

Wednesday, May 28

Farmer's Market, 4-8 p.m.

Sammamish Commons Plaza

Thursday, May 29

Planning Comm. Special Mtg, 5 p.m.

JUNE

Tuesday, Jun. 3

City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Jun. 4

Farmers Market, 4-8 p.m.

Sammamish Commons Plaza

Thursday, Jun. 5

Planning Commission Mtg, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Jun. 10

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

Wednesday, Jun. 11

Farmers Market, 4-8 p.m.

Sammamish Commons Plaza

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

Monday, Jun. 16

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

Tuesday, Jun. 17

City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Jun. 18

Farmers Market, 4-8 p.m.

Sammamish Commons Plaza

Sammamish Youth Board Mtg, 6 p.m.

Thursday, Jun. 19

Planning Commission Mtg, 5:30 p.m.

Friday, Jun. 20

Teen Skate Competition, Dance, 1-9 p.m.

Samm. Commons Skate Park & Plaza

Wednesday, Jun. 25

Farmers Market, 4-8 p.m.

Sammamish Commons Plaza

PLEASE NOTE:

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

SAMMAMISH CITY COUNCIL



Lee Felling
Mayor



Don Gerend
Deputy Mayor



Jack Barry
Councilmember



Mark Cross
Councilmember



Kathleen Huckabay
Councilmember



Michele Petitti
Councilmember



Nancy Whitten
Councilmember

May 30 deadline for July 4th concessionaires, vendors

If you would like to sell hamburgers, pizza, teriyaki or some other delicacy at the biggest community event in Sammamish history, you have until the end of May to submit your application. The same holds true for vendors who would like a booth to promote their businesses.

"It's possible we could have as many as 20,000 people at our second annual Fourth on the Plateau celebration," said Sara Ninteman, one of the city's event organizers, "so it's going to be a great opportunity for concessionaires and vendors."

Information on the event, along with all the pertinent application materials, are available on the event website

(www.ci.sammamish.wa.us/4thJuly.aspx).

During last year's inaugural event, an estimated crowd of between 10,000 and 15,000 residents attended the July 4th celebration. In addition to a 25-minute fireworks display above Sammamish Commons, the city's 30-acre park and civic complex, people enjoyed live music, elaborate play areas, face painting, the aforementioned hot foods, and a turning point for the community.

"It was the first huge gathering of Sammamish residents," Ninteman said, "and it created a great and very enjoyable sense of community."

CITY OF SAMMAMISH OFFICES

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Pete Butkus	Deputy City Manager
Kamuron Gurol	ComDevDir/AsstCityMgr
Lyman Howard	Finance Dir/AsstCityMgr
John Cunningham	Public Works Director
Jessi Richardson	Parks & Rec Director
Mike Sauerwein	Admin Services Director
Melonie Anderson	City Clerk
Brad Thompson	Police Chief
Bruce Disend	City Attorney
Tim Larson	Communications Manager



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