



Please visit us at
www.summitwaller.org

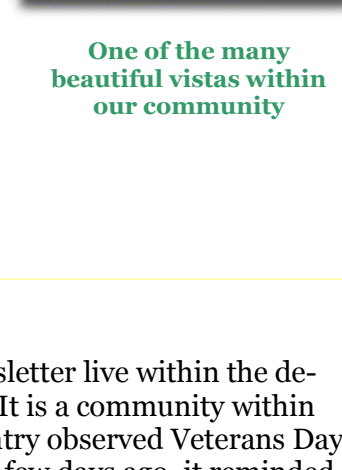
It's your community!

November 2011



Greetings from your Executive Board

The Summit Waller Community Association needs YOU to be on the Board of Directors!



One of the many beautiful vistas through our community

Message from the President

The vast majority of you who are receiving this e-newsletter live within the defined boundaries of the Summit-Waller Community. It is a community within Pierce County that we can be very proud. As our country observed Veterans Day with its focus on national pride for our veterans just a few days ago, it reminded me that "pride" really should trickle down through the state and county levels to the community level. Civic Pride is not just an expression of gratitude. It is part of being a citizen. It is a core value that urges us to demonstrate our positive support for the neighborhoods that we live in, and quite frankly take for granted a little bit. I urge you to display your inner civic pride by getting involved with local efforts to keep our community safe, clean and connected to our local government entities.

The Summit-Waller Community Association has been very busy in our community since 1993. The last six months have been filled with monthly board meetings; working with Pierce County Parks with monitoring & maintenance efforts at Orangegate Park; participation in Waller Road Adopt-A-Road cleanup efforts; working with the Neighborhood Watch Action Team in crime prevention efforts; participation in Franklin Pierce School District's Vision 2030 effort; working with the FPSD's "the Farm" Program at 96th St E & Waller Rd E; and working with Tacoma Public Utilities with concerns related with Cowlitz Substation improvements and Pipeline Road gates. We are definitely on a roll. It can only happen when civic minded people get involved out of a love for their community.

If you would like to help us to improve our community, think about a donation of your time or talent or membership. Give me a call. I'll help you decide how you can help us help our community.

Have a wonderful Holiday Season!

Sincerely,

Larry Volland, SWCA President – 2011-12

(253) 531-7795



An Important Invitation

Citizens of the Summit-Waller Community are cordially invited to attend a meeting of the Pierce County Council on Tuesday, November 29, 2011.

Our new Pierce County Council Representative, Rick Talbert, has arranged this weekly Council meeting to be in our neighborhood.

The Summit-Waller Community Association Board of Directors encourages a large turnout for this event.

The 7-member Council Meeting will start at 6:00 pm, and be held at the Mid-County Community Center located at 10205 44th Ave E next to the Summit Youth Center in the Summit area. The community center is located directly behind Central Avenue Elementary School. 44th Ave E borders the west end of the school grounds.

So, come meet and greet our new council member, Rick Talbert, and see how a typical council meeting operates.

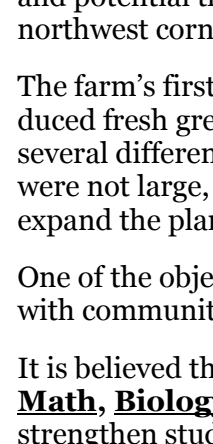
Renewed your dues yet?

Your membership dues have been working overtime this past year. Please renew your membership this year so that dues monies can continue to fulfill our mission goals in the upcoming year. See the membership form included in this newsletter. Thanks!

Community Association Dues are \$20 per household per year. Pay at the annual meeting or send your dues to:

SWCA
PMB 281
10611 Canyon Rd E
Puyallup, WA 98373-4256

County Councilman Rick Talbert



Rick Talbert is our community's new representative on the Pierce County Council. Councilman Talbert became our Council District lines to reflect the most recent census study. As a result, Joyce McDonald now represents the Puyallup area and Rick Talbert represents the Summit-Waller area which is known as the Rural Separator community.

Councilman Talbert has already met with a number of community members, including members of the Summit-Waller Community Association. Mr. Talbert has also met with representatives of the Mid-County Community Center as well as members of our community's "Neighborhood Watch Team."

Based on our observations, Councilman Talbert is working hard to represent our community and appears supportive of our concerns and seems willing to

The SWCA Board of Directors Meets Monthly

You are invited to attend one of our monthly Summit-Waller Community Association Board of Directors Meetings. Come on out and see and hear what is happening out there in our community. The public is heartily welcomed. The board meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Mid-County Community Center (behind Central Avenue Elementary School on 104th St E, west of Canyon Rd) from 7-9 pm. The access road to the community center is just west of the school on 44th Ave E. Thinking about maybe becoming a board member? Come and check out how a board meeting is conducted, and what board members are involved in these days.

Natural Resource Science Center

FPSD Farm Program Progress Report

The Summit-Waller Community Association initiated the 10 acre Franklin Pierce School District Farm rejuvenation project effort that is finally beginning to bear fruits and vegetables. Very few School districts have an asset of this size and potential this near urbanized environments. The farm is located on the northwest corner of Waller Road E and 96th St E.

The farm's first FPSD student and administration productive fall harvest produced fresh green beans, tomatoes, potatoes and other vegetables and fruits for several different schools and their lunches. Since the first productive results were not large, because of limited plantings, the goal for future harvests is to expand the planting area each year for several years.

One of the objectives over time is to place the entire 10 acres into production with community participation.

It is believed that this program is linked and/or has connections to **Science, Math, Biology, Health** and **Nutrition** curriculum relationships will strengthen student interest in the desire to learn. A simple approach to that end is through the better taste of local fresh produced fruit and vegetables made available in all the districts lunch offerings. The SWCA believes that students will be open to knowing why local grown harvested foods taste better. Because of less storage and more ripening prior to harvests, and the resulting gain in taste and nutrition benefits, students will better appreciate the science and lifelong health benefits. It can trigger the desire to learn and open doors and broaden their pursuits in a number of quality professions that would otherwise be overlooked. It will have a positive affect for their future off spring beginning health and their quality of life.

For those in the community who wish to get better acquainted and become involved in the FPSD Farm and Community Program-contact Willie Painter wpainter@fpschools.org or SWCA President, Larry Volland at LarBara@aol.com or Jim Akers at jammc@harbornet.com.



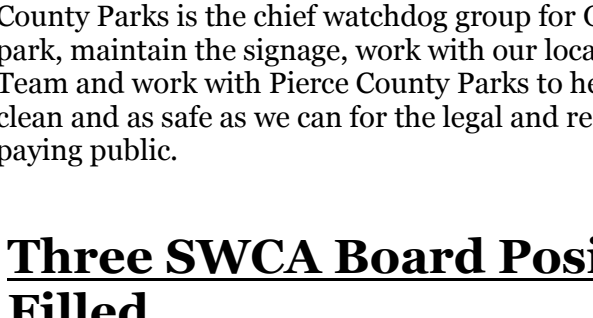
The Mid-County Community Center Newsflash

We are honored to have been asked by our Councilmember, Rick Talbert, to host an in-district County Council meeting. The meeting to be held at MCCC will be on November 29th, beginning at 6pm. We are looking forward to the opportunity to introduce the council to the united, involved, and friendly community we serve.

The Holidays are coming to MCCC! We have many holiday events scheduled throughout November and December, to bring holiday cheer to the older adults in our community. It is well known that the holidays can often be a difficult and isolated time for many seniors. This can be caused by health issues, separation from family, loss of loved ones, and a reduced social support network. Please encourage any older adults you know in the community who may have these challenges to come make new friends, and enjoy celebrating the holidays with us at MCCC!

In the New Year, we will be focusing on health and wellness for older adults. We will be featuring a Falls Prevention informational presentation on January 18th, followed by individual Fall Risk Assessments. Falls are the leading cause of fatal and nonfatal injuries for persons aged 65 years and older. Each year an estimated one third of older adults fall, and the likelihood of falling increases substantially with advancing age. Falls also cause the majority of hip fractures, which often result in long-term functional impairments that might require admission to a nursing home for a year or more. We all need to remember that this is a significant concern in our community, and especially with our older adults. If you know of an older adult that may not be aware of the seriousness of this issue, invite them to join us for lunch at 11:30am on January 18th to learn more about it.

Disaster Averted at Orangegate Park



This past July two teenagers in our area decided to ride their motorcycles into Orangegate Park off of 84th St E near Tacoma Power's massive Cowlitz Electrical Substation carrying shovels. These two motorcyclists had been warned numerous times not to ride motorcycles in the park by citizen caretaker volunteers belonging to our Summit-Waller Community

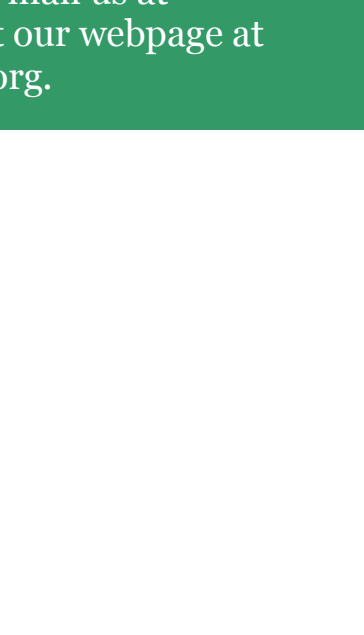
Association and the Neighborhood Watch Action Team. This time, however, these two knuckleheads brought shovels with them and proceeded to dig holes for jumps right above the Olympic Pipeline Company's 14" high pressure pipeline. This pipeline carries gasoline, diesel and jet fuel from Cherry Point, WA to Vancouver, WA at the rate of 6.5 million gallons of product per day. Horse riders from High Point Equestrian Center interrupted them and warned them of the danger, and told them to leave. They didn't. They continued to dig to a depth of four feet and exposed the pipe. Neighborhood Action team members were called as well as the Pierce County Sheriff Department. Witnesses saw the youths trying to puncture the pipe with a large rock. They knocked the coating material off of the pipe, but were unable to puncture the pipe. Once they knew that the authorities were called, they fled. It cost Olympic Pipeline approximately \$30,000+ to repair the damage. With citizen help the two youths were identified, have admitted their guilt, and are currently going through stringent diversion programs with restitution being a part of the program. If they mess up in any way we are told, then they will be charged with malicious mischief. Please be reminded that our community association working with Pierce County Parks is the chief watchdog group for Orangegate. We clean up the park, maintain the signage, work with our local Neighborhood Watch Action Team and work with Pierce County Parks to help keep Orangegate Park as clean and as safe as we can for the legal and recreational enjoyment of our tax-paying public.

Three SWCA Board Positions Need to be Filled

Currently we have three wonderful board members who have agreed to stay on past their three year commitments on the Summit-Waller Community Association's Board of Directors because we were unable to find replacements for them. They have agreed to stay until replacements can be found. Normally, a board member serves a 3-year term, and then must step down for at least a year before applying to come back onto the board. This by-law was enacted to ensure that new energies and ideas continue to emerge from new board members, at the same time allowing retiring board members an opportunity to step away from the board for awhile. This method has worked pretty well in the past, but for some reason this past year has been a real challenge for the board to recruit new board members. If you are interested in filling one of these board positions for approximately two and one half years, please call Larry Volland, 531-7795. Maybe it is time for you to give a little back to your community. We probably could use your expertise and insight. Give it some serious thought. Check it out! Thanks!

Neighborhood Watch Action Team

Our local Neighborhood Watch Action Team members have an open invitation to Summit-Waller residents to attend one or more of their monthly meetings where crime and crime prevention efforts in our community are discussed. These meetings are held on the first Fridays of each month from 7-8:30 pm at the Mid-County Community Center located next to the Summit Youth Center behind Central Avenue Elementary School. The next meeting is Friday, December 2, 2011. Since the December meeting is a quarterly meeting, it will be a potluck dinner meeting, and will begin at 6:30 pm. So, come to our meeting; have some food; and get some valuable information. If you have any questions, please contact Donn Brunson, (253) 539-3666.



Summit Waller Community Association Mission Statement

To promote quality of life, neighborhoods, and enjoyment of property for individuals in the Summit-Waller Community.

Questions or comments? E-mail us at summitwaller@gmail.com or visit our webpage at www.summitwaller.org.