



Safe Driving

The recent fatal accident in our neighborhood at 119th Ave NE and NE 144th St is a serious reminder of the need for all of us to drive safely by adhering to the speed limit, coming to a complete stop at stop signs, and being observant of the many children, walkers, joggers, and bicyclists on our streets and sidewalks.

Our sincere sympathy to the family of Kyle Warnick who was hit in the crosswalk while walking his dog. We understand that Mr. Warnick lived in Kingsgate 1-2 and is survived by his spouse and two teenage sons. He and his dog were known by many in our neighborhood. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family.

Prior to this tragedy, the City of Kirkland had proposed making changes in the signage and striping along 117th / 119th NE between NE 140th and NE 153rd Streets. This was the result of High Woodlands homeowner Sally Batson and her neighbors bringing pressure to bear on the City to address ongoing speeding and traffic issues, particularly on 117th near NE 142nd.

The planned changes are illustrated on the last page of the newsletter. (For a color version, please see the link on the front page of our website.)

The City completed three traffic studies along this street and has had

input from the Kirkland Police Department, as well as input from some area residents. The City will be installing the new signs within the next several weeks, and is looking at options to fund the road markings, either in 2014 or 2015.

All High Woodlands residents should: 1) contact Kathy Robertson, Kirkland Neighborhood Traffic Control Coordinator, at krobertson@kirklandwa.gov or (425) 587-3870 and express your strong support for this proposal. There are funding issues, and the more citizens who insist on this, the greater chances of something happening. I know we'd like to see more, but this is a start.

And 2) contact Corporal Lapaki Zablan of the Traffic Unit at the Kirkland Police Department at lzablan@kirklandwa.gov or (425) 587-5344 and request more frequent and consistent enforcement of the speed limit on 117th / 119th NE. This is becoming a basic safety issue in our neighborhood and the more of us who request police presence, the greater the likelihood of their responding.

Also, for specific speeding incidents about which you do not want to call 911, do not hesitate to call the police non-emergency number: (425) 577-5656. Another useful tool is to send an email to police@kirklandwa.gov. This will also establish a record of your communication.

Next Board Meeting, Monday, October 6

City Councilperson, Toby Nixon, and representatives from the police and neighborhood traffic safety departments, will be at this meeting, October 6th at 7:30 pm, at the Robert Frost Elementary School Library.

It is important that we hear the facts surrounding the recent fatal accident and the plans for reducing speeding and unsafe driving in our neighborhood.

All homeowners are encouraged to attend.

WOW! What a Summer!

The pool was a very popular place to be this summer. We had consistent, beautiful weather and that brought many neighbors and friends to the pool to play and relax. We had lots of kids from 3-16 years old take swim lessons in addition to many private lessons. There were 50% more parties this summer than in the past 7 years that I have managed. There were 85+ swimmers practicing for the swim team and we hosted 4 swim meets. We also had the Annual School's Out party that had a record number of folks show up at 65. We ran out of pizza but still had lots of fun. The new ramp made access for swimmers easier and was viewed by many as a great addition. We did so well on our Health inspections that we were asked if we could be a training pool for new inspectors. To show them what it SHOULD look like. That is quite high praise. To everyone who enjoyed the pool, thank you from the staff and myself for the privilege to work with so many nice people!

There has been some confusion about who will manage the pool next year. I am planning on managing the pool but have stepped down from the swim team ONLY. There are many good neighbors working on the swim team and they will be led by Heather Clarke as Manager.

It was a busy but very nice summer season and I look forward to seeing you all next year.
-- Crystal Lee

Our entire community appreciates the hard work of Crystal and her staff in making the season such a success!

Park Improvements

Over the summer we completed three major projects: 1) installation of a curb cut (ramp) in the parking lot to allow easier access for the mobility impaired as well as strollers from the parking lot to the park and pool, 2) repair and repaving of the surface in the covered picnic shed, and 3) repaving of the sidewalk adjacent to the tennis court.

Freeway Noise

The Washington State Department of Transportation is working to complete improvements on I-405 between NE 6th Street in Bellevue and I-5 in Lynnwood. They include adding one new lane in each direction between NE 6th Street and SR 522, creating an express toll lane system, building wider shoulders, installing new storm water infrastructure, and constructing new noise walls.

Many homeowners have complained about the noise and other impacts coming from the Totem Lake Yard. The State will conduct an informal meeting where they can answer questions about the project schedule, timeline for completion, and the final design of the yard after construction. The meeting will be held on the evening of Wednesday, October 1 at the Kingsgate Library from 6 – 7pm.

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Congratulations Graduate!

Paxton Spencer has grown up in High Woodlands and he graduated from Inglemoor High School on June 16th. He is planning to go to Cascadia then transfer to U of W. He will be studying Engineering, Physics and Nano Technology.