

tukwila

reporter

06 • 2015

**CHECK
OUT**
THE
**TUKWILA
RESIDENTS'
GUIDE**
INSERTED INSIDE
THIS EDITION

coverstory | page 6

TEEN POWER:
**THEY MAKE A DIFFERENCE
WITH THEIR IDEAS, ACTIONS**

SCHOOL CONNECTIONS: Tukwila School District update, pages 14-15

[see us online] www.tukwilareporter.com

Deadline for bids for new KCLS library is June 18

The King County Library System has called for bids for the new Tukwila Library at Tukwila Village, with a deadline of June 18.

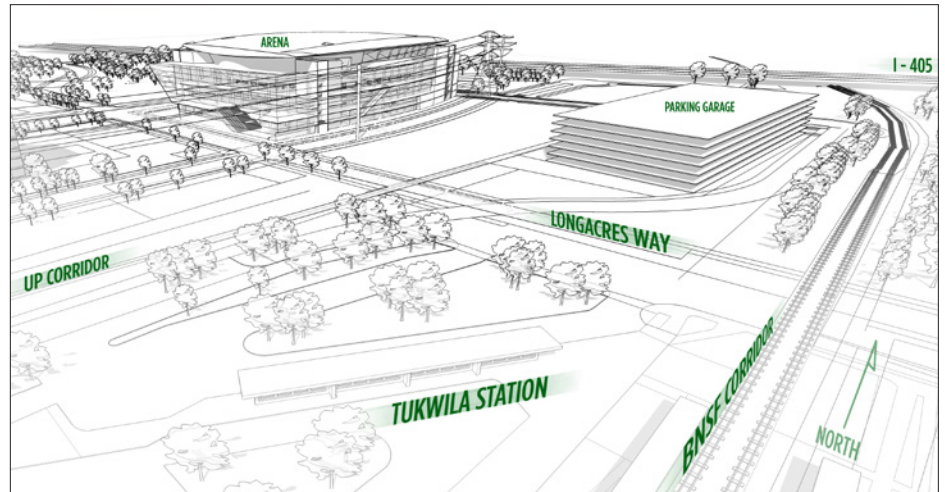
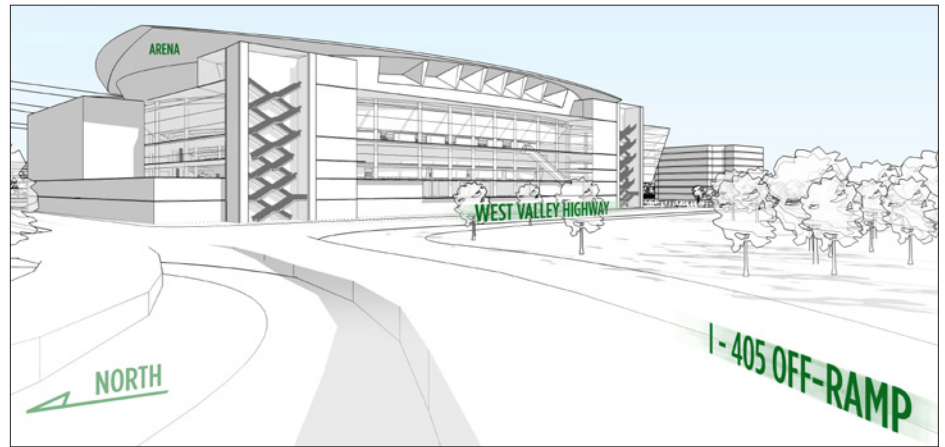
The City of Tukwila on May 20 finished the deal to sell the land to KCLS at South 144th Street and 42nd Avenue South.

The city has approved the building per-

mits and will issue them once the library has selected the contractor, according to Derek Speck, the city's economic development director.

KCLS expects to start construction this July and be complete in fall 2016.

Work is also under way on site preparation.



Two artist drawings show the exterior design of the new arena, above, and how it and a parking garage would fit on the property.

Arena review begins

The Tukwila community had a chance earlier this month to tell the City of Tukwila what impacts they want considered when the city does the environmental review for a 19,500-seat arena on West Valley Highway.

RLB Holdings Sports and Entertainment LLC is proposing to build the stadium on land it owns or controls near the intersection of Interstate 405 and the West Valley Highway.

One suggested use has been a National Hockey League team.

The city has decided to review the following environmental issues:

- Land use
- Height, bulk, scale and aesthetics
- Air quality
- Transportation, including parking, vehicle traffic, transit and bicycle/pedestrian movement and circulation.

The entire EIS process will take six to 12 months to complete, according to the city. The city has set up a page on its website with all documents related to the development.

A draft EIS will be released for comment late in the summer. Once a final EIS is approved, the developer will begin applying for numerous permits.

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'Thin Red Line' bracelets help Tukwila Pantry

BY DEAN A. RADFORD

DRADFORD@TUKWILAREPORTER.COM

The Tukwila Pantry received a check for \$1,064 from retired Tukwila firefighter Matt Hickey who made and sold 110 "Thin Red Line" bracelets in memory of fallen Tukwila Fire Capt. Michael McCoy.



Capt. Michael McCoy

The donation will provide about 10,000 meals for those who use the food bank, according to director Joe Tice.

McCoy, a well-respected member of the Tukwila Fire Department, died April 22 after a sudden and unexpected medical emer-



Tukwila Pantry director Joe Tice, left, receives the check from Tukwila Fire Capt. Patrick McCoy, center, and retired firefighter Matt Hickey. Dean A. Radford/Tukwila Reporter

gency. McCoy was in Alabama at the time, taking a National Disaster Medical Systems class.

Hickey, a firefighter for 36

years, including 26 with Tukwila, was a communications unit leader with Health and Human Services (HHS), for which McCoy

served as an operation sections chief for disaster response.

"He was looked up to by all of his co-workers as an amazing tactician," said Hickey. "He was an amazing person. His death was an acute loss to so many people."

They worked together on disasters worldwide, including hurricanes such as Katrina and Rita, the earthquake in Haiti and the Japanese tsunami and superstorm Sandy.

McCoy's twin brother Patrick is also a Tukwila fire captain and an HHS operations sections chief.

Firefighters also wear a black strip over their badges to honor a fallen firefighter, according to Hickey. Fallen police officers are honored with a "Thin Blue Line."

The paracord bracelets take about 20 minutes to make; he sold



'Thin Red Line' bracelet

them as the fundraiser to people all over the country, he said.

Next, he'll donate half the proceeds from the sale of "Thin Red Line" and "The Thin Blue Line" bracelets to Zone 3 Fire Explorers, who help at major fires in South King County.

More information about the paracord bracelets is available online at <https://www.etsy.com/shop/Paracorditis>.

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The City of Tukwila is preparing to do an environmental review of a new arena in Tukwila on West Valley Highway.

3 redline

A retired Tukwila firefighter raised more than \$1,000 for the Tukwila Pantry in memory of fallen Tukwila Fire Capt. Michael McCoy.

6 coverstory

Tukwila's teens are finding their voice and giving back to the community in myriad ways, including the Teens for Tukwila.

10 statestars

Foster High School track and field athletes did well at the state tournament, including a fourth-place finish in the girls 400 meters.

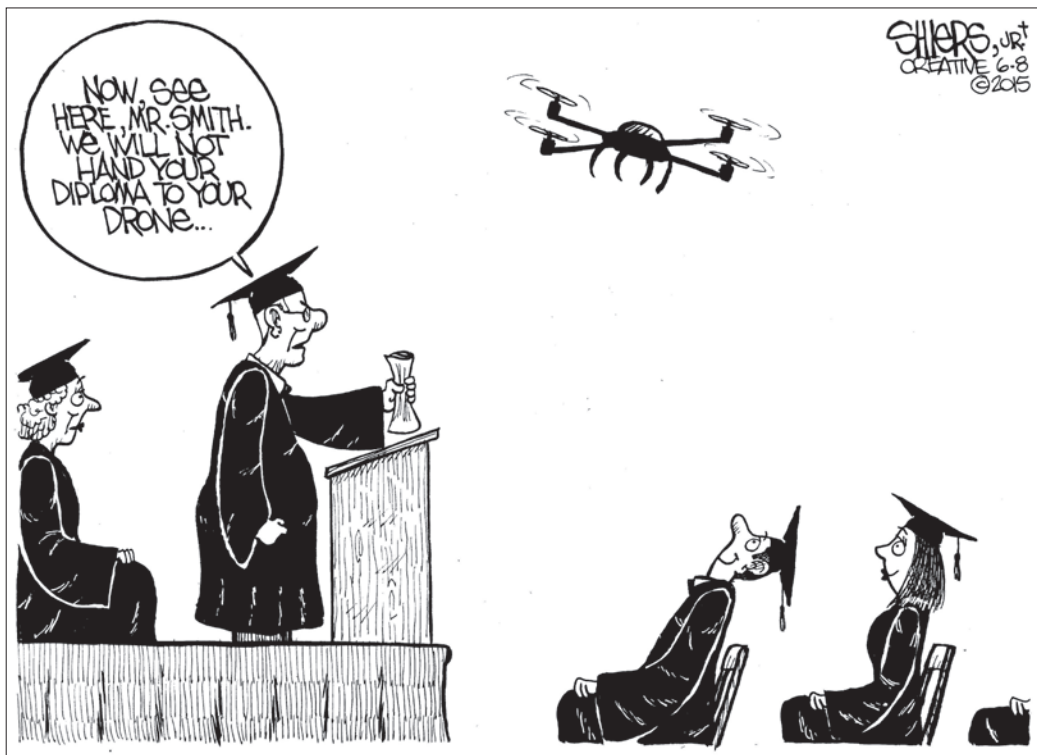
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The Tukwila Historical Society is marking its 40 anniversary, preserving the city's history and heritage.

tukwila
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The *Tukwila Reporter* encourages reader participation in your community newspaper. Share your thoughts in a letter to the editor (200 words or less) including your full name, address and phone number.

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Tukwila's teens showing they can lead, serve others

This is the time of year when a community celebrates the accomplishments of its teenagers and encourages them to do well in their life's endeavors.

Tukwila's commencement celebration was special last Friday. Foster High School marked the centennial of its first graduation, in 1915, when Ava Sophia Adams received the school's first diploma.

A lot has changed since then, in Tukwila, in education and in the teens who are receiving their diplomas this June. Arguably, the demands on them are tougher, in the classroom and in their lives outside school.



EDITOR'S NOTE
Dean A. Radford

But there are teenagers throughout Tukwila who proved they are up to the challenges ahead of them, because they've already accomplished their toughest challenge so far, earning a high school diploma.

Of course, they've had some help from the Tukwila community – you know, it takes a village.

Longtime Foster drama teacher Cynthia Chesak, who is retiring after helping teens face life's challenges through theater, shared the celebratory stage with Foster when fireworks lit up the sky.

And the teens have stepped up themselves. Take Teens for Tukwila, featured in this month's *Tukwila Reporter* cover story.

The program of the Tukwila Parks and Recreation Department has given teens a voice, which they've chosen to use, and an outlet for their boundless energy to serve their community.

There are teens in Tukwila, its athletes, and not just seniors, who have thrown farther (Eric Teng), jumped higher (Emily Chanthaphone), ran faster (Shakila Omar) and kicked harder (Desire Katameya) than others in competition.

Sadly, some teens get in trouble with the law. But Tukwila also offers its kids a chance to learn about

the law and the impact breaking it will have on their future. Tukwila Municipal Court Judge Kimberly Walden and her staff for years have offered a fantastic program called Courts for Kids, designed to build trust in the court system.

The Teens for Tukwila engaged members of the Tukwila City Council in a lively discussion about each other and their city at a Teen Forum at Foster last month.

At the end, the council members and students gave a one-word answer (more or less) to the question: Today, I walked away from this event feeling ...?

There were many answers, from "accomplished" to "inspired" to "understood" to "informed."

A word came to my mind, "encouraged," because it seems that Tukwila's teenagers are ready to make a difference in the world.

Talking about leadership

No doubt some of today's teens will walk the corridors of power at Tukwila City Hall, using the desire to serve to run for mayor or City Council. It was a good sign that at the forum, the teens raised their hands when council member Kathy Hougardy asked whether they planned to come back to Tukwila after college or other endeavors.

"This is what the council looks like now. But the future is you guys," she said.

For now, Tukwila is getting ready to pick new leadership at the top, a new mayor. Mayor Jim Haggerton won't run again and two experienced council members, De'Sean Quinn and Allan Ekberg, are running to replace him. There is a contested City Council race, too, Kate Kruller vs. Charles Richard (Dick) Tyson.

So, teens, here's a chance to make your voice heard again, in the voting booth (if you're 18 or older) or by expressing your opinion at any age.

America: keep hubris in check

One benefit of international travel is that of meeting people in their home environment. One progresses from an intellectual awareness to a gut-level understanding that what seems important to us is far less so to others. Communist or otherwise, people are patriotic and live in circumstances that are normal to them. Same as most Americans. Some American ideas about freedom, privacy and gun rights seem perverse, even dangerous, to them. One Australian couple told me that they were



COMMENTARY
Chuck Parrish

afraid to travel to the U.S. because of the prevalence of guns. They

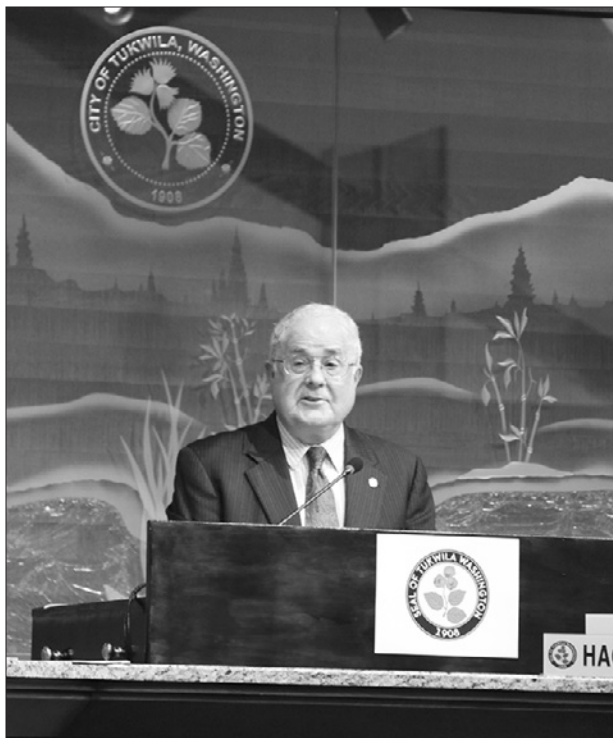
asked, "Why is the U.S. minimum wage so low? It is more than \$15 USD in Australia." Others asked, noting that America is the richest nation in the world, "Why isn't health care available for everyone?"

In areas where we seem to be going off the rails, America would be wise to consider public policies that seem to work well in other countries. More often, we ignore our shortcomings (think income inequality, incarceration rates, cost of education, health-care policy, money in politics, etc.) and reflexively eschew ideas that come from outside our borders. A little more humility, please, and a little less hubris about American exceptionalism.

Tukwila Reporter columnist Chuck Parrish can be reached via email at chuckparrish2009@gmail.com

Dr. Coogan's column

Tukwila School Supt. Nancy Coogan is on family medical leave from the school district. Her column will resume when she returns.



Mayor Jim Haggerton gave his final State of the City address on May 18. *City of Tukwila*

Mayor places his faith in Tukwila

BY **DEAN A. RADFORD**
DRADFORD@TUKWILAREPORTER.COM

Mayor Jim Haggerton gave his final State of the City address May 18, thanking numerous individuals and saying he “has faith in Tukwila.”

Haggerton is finishing his eighth year as mayor; he’s not seeking a third term.

Haggerton started his address by recounting how the global recession affected the city “dearly.”

“However, through prudent planning and the hard work of every city employee, we weathered that storm,” he said

Because of the city’s strong financial condition, it’s able to obtain lower interest rates when borrowing for important city projects, such as the Interurban Avenue improvements.

And he spoke about important projects completed

and in the works that will affect the city for the better, including Tukwila Village, Tukwila South, the Safe Routes to School projects at Thorndyke and Cascade View elementary schools and the 19-story Washington Place hotel and condominium project.

Among those he thanked was his wife Carol, “who has been my most steadfast supporter.”

Haggerton said he always takes seriously his oath to “faithfully and impartially” do his job.

And, he said, “I have faith that collectively we can tackle some of the great challenges we face and faith that we will continue to be bold and creative in our work at the city.”

Three charged in drug busts

BY **DEAN A. RADFORD**
DRADFORD@TUKWILAREPORTER.COM

Two adults, including a Foster High School student, pleaded not guilty May 19 to drug charges stemming from the alleged sale of drugs to an undercover Tukwila Police detective at the school.

Another Foster student, a 16-year-old boy, has entered a plea of not guilty in juvenile court to a similar charge. He was released to his mother’s custody.

Eliban Omar Chacon-Barrera, 20, of Seattle, is charged with felony delivery of cocaine. His next court appearance is a case-setting hearing at 1 p.m. July 1 at the Maleng Regional Justice Center in Kent. The second adult, Mark Amarillas, 19, of Tukwila, a Foster student, is charged with felony delivery of MDMA, also known as Ecstasy or Molly. His next court appearance is 1 p.m. July 14.

Following an investigation of the two drug deals, the two men were arrested and jailed on May 7, then the next day received a conditional release.

The Tukwila Police Department embedded a detective following two incidents last winter outside the Foster campus to understand the scope of any drug-related activity at the school and to ensure students and staff are safe.

The charging documents offer details of the undercover operation. The Tukwila Reporter is not naming the juvenile because of his age.

In March the undercover Tukwila detective, posing as a student, talked in class with the juvenile about drug use. About a week later, the detective contacted the juvenile, inquiring whether he still had connections with a cocaine dealer, according to charging documents.

Asked why, the undercover detective told the juvenile a friend needed the cocaine for a client and would spend \$200. The next day, the detective reached out again on Facebook that the friend had the cash. The juvenile had a dealer with the cocaine and arranged to meet the next morning at 9 a.m., March 25, in Foster’s east parking lot. Just before the meet up, the juvenile asked the undercover detective to meet at the KCLS library across the street. But, she was already at Foster.

A two-door black sedan pulled into the school’s parking lot. The juvenile got out of the front passenger seat; there were still two males in the car.

The juvenile introduced the detective to the driver, later identified as Chacon-Barrera. The \$200 was exchanged for five small plastic bags of a white powdery substance, that later tested as cocaine, according to charging documents.

Chacon-Barrera spoke in Spanish with the juvenile, who told the detective that Chacon-Barrera would sell the detective more cocaine – just ask the teen to set up a deal.

In the second incident, the undercover detective, who also had a class with Mark Amarillas, talked with Amarillas about smoking marijuana and buying “Molly,” according to charging documents. Three times he agreed to sell

marijuana to the detective but didn’t show up. Communicating through Facebook, the detective and Amarillas agreed to meet on March 30 before school in the Foster parking lot, where he would sell her 10 pills of “Molly” for \$10 a pill, according to charging documents. Before the arranged time, Amarillas contacted the detective that he would meet at lunch at McDonald’s on Tukwila International Boulevard, not far from the school. He also agreed to sell the detective two “dime bags” of marijuana worth \$10.

The detective exchanged the cash for two small plastic bags containing a leafy green substance and 10 small capsule pills that contained a white power-like substance, according to charging documents. The former later field-tested for marijuana and the latter for MDMA.

In early April, according to charging documents, Amarillas contacted the detective about setting up another deal during spring break. He agreed to sell the detective 10 pills of “Molly” and a dime bag of marijuana, all for \$110.

Another deal was set up for during spring break in early April at the same McDonald’s. The day of the deal, the detective asked for an additional 10 pills of Molly, for a total price of \$210. The deal was made.

Amarillas arrived on April 7 in a newer black four-door sedan, sitting in the back seat. Two other men were in the front seats. Amarillas got out and handed the detective the pills and the marijuana in exchange for the \$220. The detective didn’t have change but told Amarillas he could “hook [the detective] up” with another \$10 dime bag later – just message her on Facebook.

The drugs tested positive for marijuana and MDMA. About a week later, Amarillas inquired through Facebook whether the detective knew of anyone who needed Ritalin or Adderall, which are prescription drugs used to treat ADD or ADHD, according to charging documents.

The detective agreed to buy 10 pills for \$100, but he said he would sell the detective 15 pills for \$100. The exchange was set for the morning of April 13 but Amarillas changed the location to a nearby 7-11. After continuing to discuss where to meet, they met at Foster. Despite being one pill short, Amarillas was handed the \$100.

The pills were verified as used to treat ADD and ADHD.

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Members of Teens for Tukwila met with members of the Tukwila City Council May 29 for a Teen Forum at Foster High School. Attending from the council were, from left, Kathy Hougardy (arms in air), De'Sean Quinn, Joe Duffie, Kate Kruller and Allan Ekberg. *Dean A. Radford/Tukwila Reporter*

Teens for Tukwila puts minds, bodies to work

BY **DEAN A. RADFORD**

DRADFORD@TUKWILAREPORTER.COM

The teens of Tukwila are the city's future, say today's adult leaders who are encouraged to hear the teens are already sharpening their leadership skills.

And many of those teens are planning to stay in Tukwila, reinvesting their talents and stepping up when the time comes.

They're not waiting to speak up and advocate for themselves and other teens – or help others – through the Teens for Tukwila, which is recognized by the Tukwila City Council as an “official” voice of the city's youths.

In January, they took their voices to Olympia for Youth Action Day, where they met with legislators and learned how state government works.

The teens organized a Teen Forum at Foster High School in May with members of the City Council, who explained their personal and political backgrounds – and listened as teens shared what is important to them.

City Council member Joe Duffie, 71, won't run again after serving for 33 1/2

years. He's been an advocate for neighborhoods, senior citizens and young people.

“My concern is that you all will be the ones who run this city and run the world. So, if we don't teach you all now, we can't expect anything better out of you,” he told the teens.

“Just remember. You are the future. I am the past.”

Joe Duffie,
Tukwila City Council member

Recreation Department, started about five years ago. Nate Robinson, the Teen Programs specialist, provides support but the teens set their own agenda as a group and do their own talking.

The program has grown through networking among the teens and participation in such activities as Teen Late Night. Senior Alejandra Silva-Avendano says Robinson's vision in the beginning was to have teens advocate in the community about different causes.

“He saw that many youth didn't have that voice or if they did, it wouldn't be listened to very seriously,” said Silva-Avendano of Robinson, who reaches out to potential members.

The need for teen advocacy remains.

“We feel that having that teen voice and advocacy for our community is important,” she said.

Robinson says the hope was “to see youth have a deeper connection to the community.”

Teens for Tukwila doesn't have officers, such as a president or vice president. The reason is simple: everyone's voice is equal.

“Some people like that system, some people don't,” said senior Mohamed Abdi of officers. “But for us, we can all see each other eye to eye. There's no one above you or below you.”

And everyone wants to make a contribution, said Armen Papyan, who is co-president of the senior class.

“We all want to contribute. It's not a thing that we have to do. It's a thing that we want to do,” he said.

Teens for Tukwila has done a number of community projects, including for senior citizens and mentoring at Showalter Middle School. They've attended Teen Action Day in Olympia, which was senior Daynon Jackson's favorite activity of the year with the group.

He saw that as a teenager, he could go to Olympia to lobby on a bill that affects teens – and understand that “the people in

TEENS FOR TUKWILA

Teens interested in joining Teens for Tukwila can contact teen specialist Nate Robinson at nate.robinson@TukwilaWA.gov or by phone at 206-768-2822.

ON THE COVER

Members of the Teens for Tukwila who attended the Youth Action Day in Olympia were, from left, Andre Jones Jr., Travis Boyd, Araik Papyan, Unique Hebert, Elijah Hawkins, Daynon Jackson, Armen Papyan, Maranda James and Mohamed Abdi. *Photo by Nate Robinson*

charge in Olympia don't usually have the current understanding of what teenagers are going through right now.”

Some legislators look back on their own childhood for a norm, but “it just doesn't click with them that what's normal now wasn't normal then.”

So, it's “enjoyable” that when he goes to Olympia “they will actually listen to me because that doesn't always happen,” he said.

This school year was particularly important for Teens for Tukwila because late last year the Tukwila City Council established a formal relationship with the group in the

[more TEENS page 7]



Members of Tukwila for Teens, from left, Mohamed Abdi, Daynon Jackson and Andrew Hougary listen with other teens. *Dean A. Radford/Tukwila Reporter*

[TEENS from page 6]

form of a charter. The charter spells out how the City Council and teens can work together and spells out goals for the teens.

This first year is a trial period, before a decision is made to make the relationship permanent.

The summit in May was a chance for the teens and council members to learn about each other. "I got involved in politics because I want to make a difference," said council member Allan Ekberg.

The teens got a review of what the city has accomplished, from approving Tukwila Village, to seizing hotels on Tukwila International Boulevard to developing the new Tukwila Sounder Station.

But council member De'Sean Quinn wanted to hear some marching orders from the teens, offered from their perspective.

"In some ways, we can act like we are young. We can pretend to be young. Or

even ask our kids what's going on. But it's more important to really hear from you. What is your experience? What makes you feel safe? What makes you excited about government?" he said.

Travis Boyd had a one-word answer to the question, "What do you want?"

"Teenagers, we want answers. We see a lot of things going on, not only in our community, our school, with our parents and with other people, sometimes I find myself wanting to know why, why, why," he said.

For example, he wanted to know, as he went by on his way to school, why the land for Tukwila Village remained vacant for so long. He's happy to see, now that he's in high school, that work is under way.

One teen brought up the ongoing issue of relationships between teens and Tukwila Police officers. He's been stopped for doing nothing wrong, he says, and hopes for more open communication with an officer. Usually, when there's no problem, the officer will become more casual, he said. But he wants that reaction from the "get-go."

The teens and council members talked extensively about jobs in the trades, such as plumbing or carpentry or auto mechanics, which don't require a college education but provide a family wage job. There was a suggestion to add trades in Foster's next Career Day.

The summit ended with both sides hoping to have another such gathering.

The seniors in Teens for Tukwila will take their leadership and communication skills to college or new jobs, knowing they can make a difference if they speak out.

"I see the impact I can make as a teen in my community. It has inspired me to continue doing that and no matter where I end up going, I feel like that is something I will continue doing, raising issues that affect my community and being comfortable to do so in front of other people," said Silva-Avendano, who plans to attend Whitworth College.

She and Daynon Jackson, who will attend Pacific Lutheran University, received full-tuition Act Six scholarships awarded to "emerging leaders" who want to use their college education to make a difference in their home communities.

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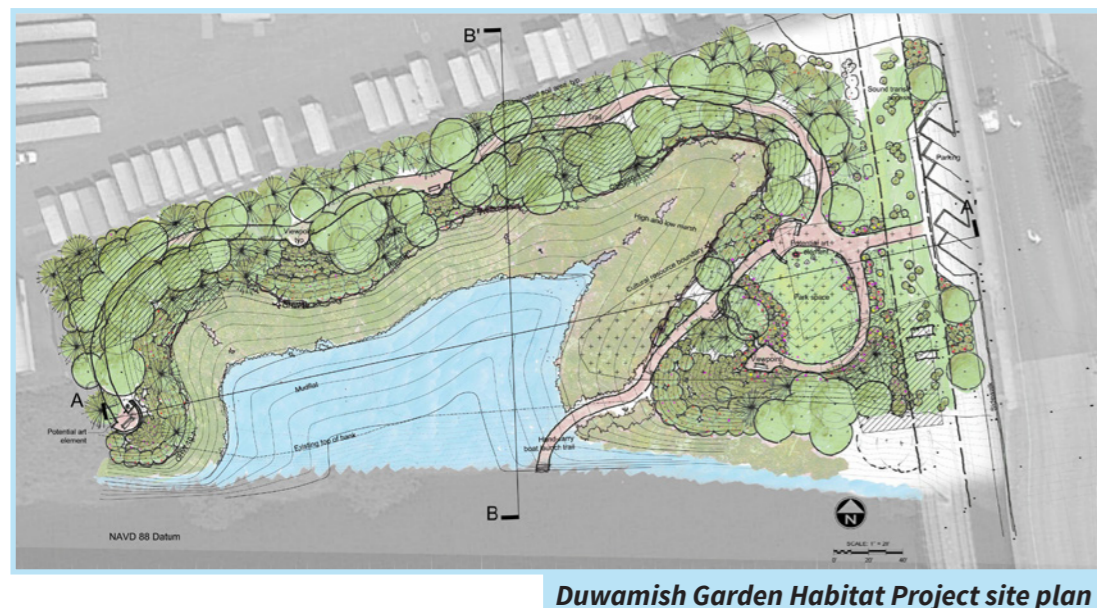
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TUKWILA CITY PAGES

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Duwamish Garden Habitat Project site plan

New project will create new City park along with natural fish habitat

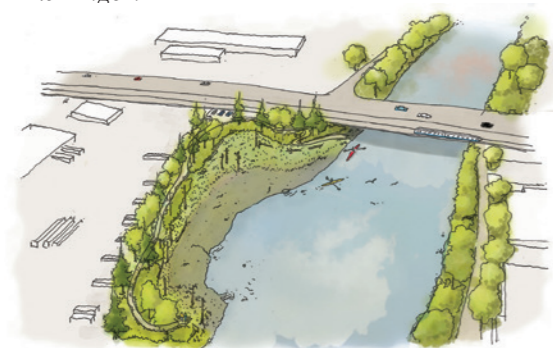
The City of Tukwila has begun construction of the Duwamish Gardens Habitat Improvement Project located on the north bank of the Duwamish River at East Marginal Way South. The focus of this 2.5-acre project is the creation of more than an acre of estuarine habitat, with the primary targeted beneficiaries being the endangered Chinook salmon and bull trout. This project will provide the fish with refuge from flood flows and food sources as they make the critical life cycle transition between fresh and salt water.

The completed Duwamish Gardens project will become a City park, featuring walking paths, viewpoints, a gathering area, a lawn area that affords views of the river, and a hand-carry boat launch. There will also be interpretive signage and art that relate to current and historic use of the river. The classic local Native American story of the Epic of the Winds will also be depicted. The project also includes pedestrian access improvements, a five-car parking lot, and rain gardens that will collect and treat storm water from East Marginal Way South, as well as from the overhead Sound Transit Central Link light rail.

Projected to cost approximately \$2.5 million, construction of the Duwamish Gardens site is funded by a number of agencies, including the State's Salmon Funding Recovery Board (SFRB), the King Conservation District (KCD), the King County Flood Control District (KCFCD), and the City of Tukwila.

Any questions concerning Duwamish Gardens should be directed to the City's project manager, Mike Perfetti, at 206-433-7192 or email Mike.Perfetti@TukwilaWA.gov.

Duwamish Gardens perspective drawing (showing East Marginal Way)



Join us for "See You in the Park" events!

Tukwila's Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a series of community play nights in several of Tukwila's neighborhood parks. Come enjoy some food, games and recreational opportunities with our Recreation staff. Let's talk about what the park means to your neighborhood. Each event runs from 5:30-7:30PM.

- Wednesday, July 8 at Joseph Foster Park
- Wednesday, July 15 at Riverton Park
- Wednesday, July 22 at Duwamish Park
- Wednesday, July 29 at Tukwila Park
- Tuesday, August 4 at Crestview Park

Council Chat

Next Chat: July 11

at Mike's Community Cup
16260 Military Road South, SeaTac
Come discuss what's on your mind with a Tukwila City Councilmember

10:00AM to 12:00NOON



COUNCIL CORNER

by Kate Kruller, 2015 Council President

Your City Council has been more visible and available out in the neighborhoods lately!

In the past month, we've met jointly with the Tukwila School Board, participated in the Backyard Wildlife Festival, attended neighborhood meetings in Allentown and Tukwila International Boulevard (TIB), joined in a Business Roundtable hosted by the Chamber, participated in a summit with students at Foster High, and joined the community in honoring Memorial Day at the Museum of Flight and in our own Council Chamber. Those are just a few examples of all that is keeping us working hard for you.

We also tried out something new this month. The Tukwila City Council held a Town Hall at a location near Tukwila International Boulevard. The idea was to invite anyone in the community to gather with us, take time to network a little, and provide a devoted amount of time for a "listening session." It was literally an "open microphone" opportunity for residents to have to have their say about Tukwila.

It was like neighbors talking over the fence about all kinds of things: parking concerns at the Sound Transit Light Rail Station, rail crossing safety, improvements to the "look & feel" of Tukwila, reporting nighttime construction noise, "hot spots" where bad actors are violating the law and making areas unsafe or unpleasant for residents, requests to change residential

lot size zoning, access to updates on a potential Boeing Access Road Light Rail Station, the proposed sports arena, news on Tukwila Village, community survey feedback, concerns about illegal collective grow operations, feedback any proposed changes to housing and neighborhood zoning regulations, code enforcement, questions about city contractors, and more.

This gathering wrapped up with a very inspiring guest speaker that brought a lot of interesting ideas to everyone there. Mike Lydon, Co-Author of Tactical Urbanism: Short-term Action for Long-term Change, who took the audience around the world to see examples of what this turn-of-phrase means. For example, how to take over a busy street block for a day - and use it to create a temporary park or safe open-space, walkable-plaza. Creating streets just for pedestrians and bicycles. Trying innovative ideas for traffic calming and safer intersections. Putting in way-finding signs to encourage people to walk to interesting local destinations. Turning vacant lots and under-used parking areas into parks for people. Ways to "take back" areas for residents to use and be safe, where it wasn't before.

Overall, it was a unique and dynamic experience. So much so, that we'll probably do it again this year! We hope word will spread about this inclusive format and that gatherings like this will become more the norm than the exception!

MAYOR: Jim Haggerton
COUNCIL PRESIDENT: Kate Kruller

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Joe Duffie • Dennis Robertson • Allan Ekberg
Verna Seal • Kathy Hougardy • De'Sean Quinn

Take part in a Tukwila tradition: Family Fourth at the Fort – Saturday, July 4
Entertainment, inflatable bouncers, slides, food and fireworks at Fort Dent Park!
Park opens at 9:00AM – activities start at 4:00PM – fireworks display at 10:00PM

Be on the lookout for this toxic plant

Have you seen this plant? This is Giant Hogweed, a plant that is hazardous to humans. It was brought to the United States originally from Asia as an ornamental plant, but has spread to backyards, ravines, parks, streams and roadsides throughout



King County. It closely resembles the Cow Parsnip - a plant native to Washington that is harmless. Giant Hogweed is classified as a Class A noxious weed and must be removed.

This plant is a public health hazard - the sap from the plant's stem is clear and watery and contains toxins that cause painful, burning blisters that may develop into purplish or blackened scars. In some cases it has been known to cause blindness if the sap comes into contact with the eyes. The sap reacts to sunlight, which causes the blisters to form. The weed blooms from mid-May through July with many white flowers at the top of the stalk.

King County maps all occurrences of this plant - if you think you have this plant on your property, please contact King County Noxious Weed staff at 206-477-WEED (206-477-9333). They will assist in identifying the plant and provide guidance on how to safely remove it.

Sound Transit seeking input on ST3

Sound Transit is currently seeking feedback on its draft list of projects that, when finalized, will go before voters in November of 2016. Currently, the Boeing Access Road light rail and commuter rail stations are included on the list. The agency has indicated that they will finalize the list based on comments received during its month-long public involvement process, which will end on July 8.

If you support the addition of the Boeing Access road stations, your voice is very important at this time. You can join the growing coalition of residents, businesses, workers, the City, and other organizations who are advocating for these projects.

At BoeingAccessRoadStation.org you'll find project background information and ways you can express your support for these potential items. For information on Sound Transit's public involvement effort, please visit SoundTransit3.org.



Critical levee work will require trail closures

Work is scheduled to start this summer along a dozen miles of levees. This work will require temporary, intermittent closures of sections of the Green River Trail.

King County maintenance work on levees from Tukwila to Kent is essential to ensuring continued strength of the levee system that protects people, businesses and the cities of Renton, Tukwila and Kent from Green River flooding.

The levee system along the lower Green River from Auburn to Tukwila stretches 21 miles in length, and includes roughly one dozen levees that protect tens of thousands of people, more than 100,000 jobs and more than \$7 billion in property.




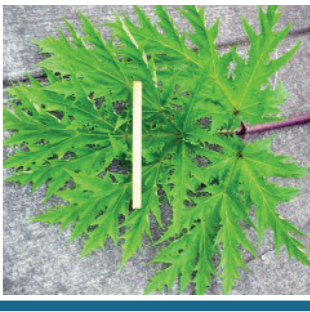


King County crews will repair damaged portions of levees, replace stormwater infrastructure, remove stumps, hedges and debris, and carry out other needed maintenance work. Maintenance is required to improve levee integrity and allow safety inspections of the levees.

The project's extensive use of heavy equipment along the levees will require temporary closures for portions of the Green River Trail, which serves as the levee maintenance and emergency repair road.

Trail closures will occur in various locations, for times ranging from one day to as long as a few weeks. The work will continue into 2016. General notification signs will be posted at major trail access points, and trail closure signs will be posted at either end of active work areas.

Project managers are working to minimize the duration of the trail closures, and are coordinating with local Parks departments to avoid conflicts with planned trail events.

For current information about upcoming Green River Trail closures, and to sign up for weekly closure updates, go to KingCounty.gov/rivers. Follow #GreenRiverTrail on Twitter for program updates.

COW PARSNIP			GIANT HOGWEED	
Generally between 3-8 feet tall		HEIGHT	Can grow up to 15-20 feet tall when flowering	
	1"-2" inches diameter Deeply ridged stems Can be green to slightly purple in color Few/no purple spots Fine white hairs, fuzzy	STEM	Up to 3"-4" diameter Hollow, contains toxic sap Ridged with dark purplish blotches and raised nodules Stiff bristle-like hairs	
	Coarsely, less jaggedly lobed (toothed), up to 20"x20" Fuzzy underside Up to 2.5' across	LEAVES	More sharply & unevenly lobed than cow parsnip Hairy underneath, up to 5' across Coarse white hairs are also at the base of the leaf stalk	
	Flat-topped Clusters up to 12" across 15-30 rays per cluster	WHITE FLOWERS	Umbrella shaped Clusters up to 20"-30" across 50+ rays per cluster	
Can cause moderate skin irritation		HUMAN HEALTH IMPACTS	Can cause severe skin irritation, giant watery blisters, scarring, blindness	

For more information about this weed, please visit KingCounty.gov/environment/AnimalsAndPlants/noxious-weeds/weed-identification/giant-hogweed.aspx.

Meeting agendas, City programs, recreation activities, publications and more... get the most current information at TukwilaWA.gov!

tukwila**sports**

Go to tukwilareporter.com for more sports coverage

Bulldogs **shine** at state

BY **DEAN A. RADFORD**

DRADFORD@TUKWILAREPORTER.COM

Foster speedster Shakila Omar finished fourth in the 400 meters at the 2A state Track and Field Championship in May in Tacoma with one of her fastest times of the season.

Three Bulldogs, Eric Teng, Zane Jacobson and Emily Chanthaphone, placed in the top 15 in their events.

The extremely tight 400 meters had the four top finishers separated by less than a second. Omar's time was 58.69 seconds; in the preliminaries, she scorched the track with a personal-best time of 58:14 seconds. Mia Hodges of Bellingham High placed first, with 58:01 seconds.

"We were very pleased with all of our student-athletes who made it to state," said head coach Louis D'Andrea. "They represented themselves, Foster High School, and the city of Tukwila with dignity and class."

Omar, Teng and Jacobson received All-Seamont League honorable mentions from the league's coaches.

Omar, a junior, has cut about 5 seconds off her time since the season began in early April. She placed second in the district tournament with 58:55 seconds, the best time in the Seamont League.

Her coaches had high expectations for Omar at this year's state meet. She did, too.

"I feel really confident this year that I will make it to finals," she said of the 400 meters before the tournament.

"I love the race. I hate it sometimes," she said, adding, "yah, it's interesting."

"It's hard, but after I run, I feel very accomplished," she said.

The Foster girls placed 35th with 5 points from Omar's placing, out of 46 teams that scored points in the tour-



Pole vaulter Emily Chanthaphone placed 13th at the state tournament. *Dean A. Radford/Tukwila Reporter*

nament.

Foster senior Emily Chanthaphone tied for 13th with a leap of 9 feet in the pole vault.

"She was a bit under her personal best, but showed lots of enthusiasm and valued the experience as well," said D'Andrea of Chanthaphone.

Chanthaphone just missed going to state last year in the pole vault, but she says she's redeemed herself. She landed a spot at state with a 9-foot-6 jump, for fourth-place finish at the district tournament.

On the boys side in the javelin, junior Eric Teng and sophomore Zane

Jacobson placed 11th and 12th, with throws of 145 feet, 6 inches and 139 feet, 5 inches, respectively. Both distances were shorter than their district tournament performances.

This was Teng's first appearance at state and the meet provided "valuable experience" for Jacobson, said D'Andrea.

Teng, the third-best discus thrower in Foster's history, placed 11th in discus, with a throw of 128 feet, 7 inches. His personal best in the discus was 139 feet, 7 inches at the district tournament.

"Eric Teng is one of the hardest-working athletes I've had come through Foster in the past 11 years," said D'Andrea. "He's a great leader and inspiration for other athletes on our team."

Dean A. Radford can be reached at 425-255-3484, ext. 5150.



Shakila Omar, above, placed fourth in the 400 meters at the state tournament, after setting a personal best time in the preliminaries of 58:14 seconds. **AT LEFT:** Eric Teng placed 11th in the javelin and discus at the state tournament. He's the third-best discus thrower in Foster's history. *Dean A. Radford/Tukwila Reporter*



J.D. **Hill** to become YMCA executive director

BY **DEAN A. RADFORD**

DRADFORD@TUKWILAREPORTER.COM

J.D. Hill, who for eight years was athletic director for the Tukwila School District, is the new executive director of the Matt Griffin YMCA in SeaTac.

His last day with the district was May 29. Hill said he's excited about the change.

"I am excited about an organization whose goals and missions align with mine,"

he said. The job, he said, "will feed my soul."

Hill said he'll still be involved with the Tukwila community as the executive director. The YMCA partners with the Tukwila Parks Department and the Tukwila School District to provide an innovative after-school program at Tukwila, Thorndyke and Cascade



J.D. Hill

View elementary schools.

And the YMCA offers a wide range of programming and activities that draw Tukwila residents.

Hill also oversaw the district's truancy program, but the new athletic director will not have that responsibility, according to district spokeswoman Sara Niegowski.

The athletic director, who is based at Foster, oversees all district athletics and facility rentals.

"We are sad to see J.D. leave the Tuk-

wila School District because he has been an asset to our schools for more than eight years, but we are very happy for him personally," she said.

"His passion has always been serving kids, which is why the YMCA position is such a good fit," she said.

The district wishes him the "best of luck, and all of us – especially those in our athletic department – will miss him," she said.

The pay range for the athletic director job is \$85,236-\$102,900.



Felix Hernandez poses for a selfie with a Thorndyke student during a Mariner assembly June 4. *Dean A. Radford/Tukwila Reporter*

Mariners' **D.R.E.A.M.** a big hit at Thorndyke

BY **DEAN A. RADFORD**

DRADFORD@TUKWILASREPORTER.COM

Mariner superstars Felix Hernandez and Nelson Cruz joined four of their teammates June 4 to bring the team's motivational message to Thorndyke Elementary School in Tukwila.

Cruz and Hernandez, along with J.A. Happ, Austin Jackson, Mark Lowe and Logan Morrison, were welcomed with the deafening roar and applause of hundreds of Thorndyke students and their teachers.

The Mariners brought members of their D.R.E.A.M. team to four elementary schools in the Seattle area. Each Mariner spoke to the students of the importance of each principle to achieve their dreams, and Hernandez challenged the students to read and left behind copies of his book, "The Rise of King Felix."

The D.R.E.A.M. principles are:

- D: Drug-free
- R: Respect for yourself and others
- E: Education through reading
- A: Attitude



Austin Jackson shakes hands as he walks into the gym. *Dean A. Radford/Tukwila Reporter*

• M: Motivation

"For me it's really, really important to come to show the kids the importance of their education," said Hernandez, the Mariners five-time All-Star pitcher.

Pitcher Mark Lowe told the students he lost friends who were getting involved in drugs. "I made a stand for myself and not be friends with them anymore because I had this dream of playing professional baseball one day."



Nelson Cruz plopped down among the Thorndyke students to watch game highlights. *Dean A. Radford/Tukwila Reporter*

Bulldogs earn all-league honors

Foster High School's standout soccer player, sophomore Desire Katameya, was named the Seamount League boys soccer athlete of the year by the league's coaches.

In track, high jumper Patrick Sa'au was named to the first team. Pole vaulter Emily Chanthaphone was named to the first team. Long jumper Kevin Lee was named to the second

team. Earning track honorable mentions were Eric Teng for discus and Zane Jacobson for javelin. Shakila Omar, who placed fourth at state, received honorable mention in the 400 meters.

In baseball, outfielder Mitchell Forhan was named to the first team, pitcher Drew Jorgensen to second team and honorable mentions went to first baseman Drew Jorgensen, second

baseball Adrian Brown, shortstop Tyler Solemsaas, utility Travis Boyd and outfielder Tyler Amin.

In soccer, first-team honors went to Desire Katameya, Mohamed Duntow and Naji Haji, second team honors to Sui Thang and Tanka Sanguruala and honorable mention to Alex Lepe and Mohamed Hussein.

The Foster girls softball team was awarded the team sportsmanship award.



TUKWILA'S

TOUCH-A-TRUCK

SAFETY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FAIR

ATTENTION PARENTS! Take a load off as we put kids in the driver's seat at our annual Touch-a-Truck event! We'll have Tukwila's biggest heavy-duty rigs ready for their viewing & playing pleasure! Come down and honk our horns, kick some (really HUGE) tires and visit with exhibitors as they distribute free safety tips for summer.

This family friendly event is **FREE** but we will be collecting **car themed toy donations** to support Tukwila's Spirit of Giving Program.



SATURDAY, JULY 25
9:00AM TO 1:00PM

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SOUTH PARKING LOT**

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tukwila's story



The historic Tukwila building now housing the city's Tukwila Heritage and Cultural Center has also served as a school, City Hall and King County Library System branch library. *Tukwila Historical Society*

Society marks its 40th year

BY LOUISE JONES-BROWN
PRESIDENT, TUKWILA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Tukwila Historical Society was founded on June 25, 1975, with focus on preserving local area history. The society, together with the Washington Centennial Committee, received Tukwila City Council approval to fund the writing of the book, "Tukwila-Community at the Crossroads" as a compilation of local stories with many photos of the area's history. This book published in 1991 was a joint effort of community members and officials, both past and present, along with Dr. Kay Reinartz.

Founding officers of the society were Rudolph Regel, president, Joanne Davis, vice president, Louise Strander, secretary, Marie Gardner, treasurer, and Helen Nelsen, financial secretary. In 1975 projects considered by the society were restoring recently acquired Mess Family Cemetery, placing markers at 19th century riverboat landings on the lower Green and Duwamish rivers and establishing a local history museum. The Tukwila His-

torical Society also became a member of the Association of King County Historical Organizations (AKCHO). It is important to note that founding officers Rudy Regel and Helen Nelsen were former Tukwila City Council members and Louise Strander was wife of former Tukwila Mayor John Strander.

A milestone was reached in September 2010, when the Tukwila City Council approved a five-year lease for the Tukwila Historical Society on the former Tukwila School/City Hall building located at 14475 59th Ave. S., with intent of creating the museum that the founding officers had planned. This historic building was a two-room schoolhouse built in 1922. Between 1980 and 2010 the building also served as a branch library of the King County Library System.

The 2015 Executive Committee consists of Louise Jones-Brown as president, Richard McLeland-Wieser as vice president, Gina Tucci as secretary and Pat Brodin as treasurer. The Tukwila Historical Society is pleased to announce a ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held on June 29 at

5:30 p.m. at the Tukwila Heritage and Cultural Center to celebrate the completion of the washroom renovation. The public is welcome but RSVP is preferred.

Louise Jones-Brown is president of the Tukwila Historical Society. The society operates the Tukwila Heritage and Cultural Center, 14475 59th Ave. S., Tukwila. The center can be reached by phone at 206-244-HIST or via email at tukwilaheritagectr@tukwila-history.org.

Schedule of events

- **June 18**, 7 p.m., Tukwila Historical Society regular monthly meeting, Tukwila Heritage and Cultural Center, 14475 59th Ave. S.

- **June 29**, 5:30 p.m., ribbon cutting to mark the washroom renovation at Tukwila Heritage and Cultural Center, featuring Mayor Haggerton. Refreshments will be provided. RSVP appreciated.

- **July 16**, 7 p.m., Tukwila Historical Society regular monthly meeting, at the museum

- **Aug. 22-23**, Tukwila Community Garage Sale. Consider donation of good used items to the Tukwila Historical Society. This is one of the major fundraising events to help maintain the museum.

Emergency team to hold Field Day exercises

The Tukwila Emergency Communications Team ("TEC Team") will host the annual Field Day exercise June 27 at Tukwila Fire Station 51 in Southcenter.

The Field Day, which is open to the public, is noon to 5 p.m. at the fire station, 444 Andover Park E.

This exercise is part of the national Field Day event, organized by the American Radio Relay League, which is the national association for amateur radio.

Visitors can try their hand at operating a High Frequency (HF) radio (no license necessary as they'll be accompanied by a licensed operator), learn about the communications facets of the city's Emergency Preparedness plan, learn about the volunteer opportunities with the TEC Team and get any questions answered relating to amateur radio or emergency communications.

The Tukwila Emergency Communications Team recruits volunteers

who live or work in Tukwila to learn about amateur radio communications (also known as "Ham Radio"), emergency preparedness, formal incident command structure and other skills needed in an emergency.

For more information about the TEC Team or to learn more about amateur radio and how it relates to the 21st century and emergency preparedness, visit the TEC Team web site at <http://www.TukwilaRadioClub.org>.

Touch a Truck at Southcenter

Tukwila's Touch a Truck is on the move – to Westfield Southcenter.

The City of Tukwila and Westfield Southcenter will co-host the Fifth Annual Tukwila Touch-a-Truck Emergency Preparedness Fair 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, July 25.

The free event brings together dozens of heavy-duty rigs and equipment for kids to explore and allows families to learn more about the importance of emergency preparedness.

Due to space constraints at the Foster High School parking lot and the opportunity to bring Touch-a-Truck to a broader audience, this year's event will be held in Westfield Southcenter's south parking lot.

The additional space will allow for more partners and more vehicles to participate, including:

- King County Library System – bookmobile
- King County Metro – RapidRide bus
- Seattle Humane Society – MaxMobile adoption bus
- Tukwila Fire Department – fire engine and fire boat
- Tukwila Police Department – mobile command post, patrol car, motorcycle, jail van, SWAT bearcat
- Tukwila Public Works Department – sewer/surface water video inspection van, front end loader
- Tukwila Parks & Recreation – tractor and aerator
- Valley View Sewer District – vactor and camera trucks
- Waste Management – garbage and recycle trucks

The City of Tukwila and Westfield Southcenter expect additional equipment and vehicle participants this year, including the Washington National Guard and Mitchell Moving & Storage. In addition, kids will enjoy other fun activities including inflatable bouncers, Reptile Isle and Clownbuggie Entertainment.

School chief taking leave

Nancy Coogan, superintendent of the Tukwila School District, is taking a Family Medical Leave for the rest of the school year.

Coogan notified the School Board of her plans in late May.

"We are honoring her privacy — personal medical information is protected — but when we have more information that we can share, we will do so," according to the school district.

"We will continue to send her well wishes as we are in contact with her and her family."

During Coogan's absence, assistant superintendents Wanda Billingsly and Martin Turney will oversee continued operations of the district.

Those wishing to reach the superintendent's office should call executive assistant Maria Gonzales-Millsap, 206-901-8006.

summercalendar

Check out the Residents' Guide inside for a calendar of summer activities.



school connection

Tukwila School District #406

JUNE 2015



Seniors Nandina Cengic, Ada Jannina Arquiza, and Mamata Tamang (from left) won this year's prestigious City of Tukwila Opportunity Scholarship. They received their awards earlier this month from the Mayor and City Council. Their awards are part of a combined \$3 million in scholarships earned by seniors this year.

International Celebrations

With students and staff from every corner of the globe, Tukwila's three elementary schools recently honored their rich diversity with international celebrations featuring dancing, singing, food, stories, and cultural traditions and dress from around the world.



This year's International Night at Thorndyke Elementary on May 21 included a Burmese "photo booth" where families in traditional dress could have their portrait taken surrounded by art, textiles, and other Burmese artifacts. This is the Malong family, from Kachin State, the northernmost state in Burma that is bordered to the north and east by China.

Congratulations Class of 2015!

This year's seniors earned more than \$3 million in scholarships

On June 12, more than 190 Foster High seniors accepted their diplomas and entered into the next phase of their lives—as high school graduates! This year was an especially historic ceremony because it marked Foster's centennial, the 100th anniversary of the school issuing its first diploma back in 1915.

The Foster High Class of 2015 is filled with talented leaders, scholars, achievers, athletes, and humanitarians who are going

to change the world. At Senior Awards Night on June 8, this group of graduates earned more than \$3 million in scholarships! Almost 50 percent of the class (81 students) received a College Bound Scholarship, which covers full tuition at any state college, and our AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) scholarships totaled more than \$1 million.

Way to go and best of luck, grads!



A group of students performed a Mexican hat dance during Cascade View's Multicultural Potluck on May 28.



During Tukwila Elementary's International Day on June 10, students representing 49 countries led a flag ceremony, with the entire student body singing "Wavin' Flag."

Important 2015-16 Calendar Dates

A complete 2015-16 school calendar—including Smart Wednesdays—will be given to each family in back-to-school materials.

- Aug. 18-19: New student registration
- Sept. 3: First day of school
- Sept. 7: Labor Day (no school)
- Oct. 9: No school (cert-staff TRI optional)
- Nov. 11: Veterans Day (no school)
- Nov. 25: Early release
- Nov. 26-27: Thanksgiving break (no school)

Tukwila School District summer office hours

The Tukwila School District will be open for business throughout the summer! Summer hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please stop by—4640 S. 144th St., Tukwila—or call—(206) 901-8000—if you need help or have a question, especially when our school offices are closed from late June through mid-August.

FREE SUMMER LUNCH LOCATIONS

LUGARES PARA ALMORZAR GRATIS EN VERANO



MISSION DATES
FECHAS DE LA MISIÓN

6/22-8/21



SCHOOL DATES
FECHAS DE LA ESCUELA

6/29-7/31

L 12:00 pm

Cascade View Community Park
14211 37th Ave S
Tukwila, WA 98168

6/29-8/21

**B 8:00am
L 11:30pm**

Showalter Middle School
4628 S 144th St
Tukwila, WA 98168
206.901.7800

Tukwila Community Center
12424 42nd Ave S, Tukwila, WA 98168
206.768.2822

6/22-8/21

**B 8:00am
L 11:30pm**

Foster High School
4242 S 144th St
Tukwila, WA 98168
206.901.7900

L 12:15pm

Foster Tukwila Presbyterian Church
14401 56th Ave S
Tukwila, WA 98168
206.243.4455

**B 9:00am
L 12:00pm**

Thorndyke Elementary School
4415 S 150th St
Tukwila, WA 98188
206.901.7600

L 11:30am

Hampton Heights Apartments
5711 S 152nd St
Tukwila, WA 98188
206.244.1385

B: Breakfast *desayuno*
L: Lunch *almuerzo*

FOR ADDITIONAL AREA LUNCH SITES CALL:

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