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Thong Ung **cooking** something for himself

BY DEAN A. RADFORD
DRADFORD@TUKWILAREPORTER.COM

Thong Ung is going to take his sons' advice.

His last day cooking a blend of western and international foods at his popular Yamada Teriyaki was Dec. 31.

"All the kids are grown up now and they don't want me to work too hard," he said.

Don't think of Ung as retired, however, because he's still considering his next endeavor, which could include continuing his catering business.

"All the kids are grown up now and they don't want me to work too hard."

Thong Ung

The Ung family story of growing up in Cambodia, their journey to America and the building of a life in Tukwila was told in a Tukwila Reporter story in February 2014,

For sure, Ung is going to take some time to exercise. "There's been no time to work out to keep me healthy," he said.

He plans to continue his volunteer efforts for Tukwila. He was appointed in October to the Tukwila Equity and Diversity Commission.

He began cooking at Yamada Teriyaki



Thong Ung will remain active in the Tukwila community. Dean A. Radford/Tukwila Reporter

about eight years ago and many of his customers have become friends, including firefighters at the city fire headquarters not far away on Andover Park East in Southcenter.

He says he should have retired about three years ago, but he wanted to keep working. Now, his cook wants to move to California, which would mean training someone new.

Ung himself is an accomplished cook, with decades of experience.

There are business reasons, too, including rising food costs, for why he's saying goodbye to his restaurant.

But Yamada Teriyaki will live on.

Brian Rho, who also owns the store next door, is offering his own Korean style of teriyaki. He's developing a new menu.

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Tukwila schools **tapping** power of literacy

BY **DEAN A. RADFORD**

DRADFORD@TUKWILAREPORTER.COM

Literacy – the ability to read and write at its most basic level – is the foundation for learning.

In the Tukwila School District, a team of teachers, administrators, coaches and staff members are drilling down into the meaning of “active” literacy appropriate for each grade level and across all content, such as math and science.

Then, they’ll develop a plan to help teachers develop best ways to teach literacy, often drawn from the classroom successes of fellow teachers, capped off with extensive training for teachers and support for them and students.

“Really we are designing a two- to three-year plan, which is very much grounded in professional development and what the

work will look like for our buildings and teachers, all staff in the district, to accomplish this work,” said Suzanne Hamilton, a reading teacher at Showalter Middle School.

The goal is to prepare Tukwila’s students for post-secondary education and training after high school and eventually successful lives, say four educators who met recently with the Tukwila Reporter to talk about this critical part of meeting new state and federal education standards – and is central to the district’s Strategic Plan.

The team is developing a definition of active literacy specific to the Tukwila School District, starting with preschool, but that adheres closely to the definition from the state Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The state definition includes the ability to use listening, speaking, reading, writing

and critical thinking in all types of communication in a way appropriate to the situation. Students will learn to think, create, question, solve problems and reflect.

“One way to think about it is that the expectations for our students as they leave our district are higher and higher,” said Heather Newman, the school district’s early learning coordinator. “So we want to make sure we are doing everything we can to equip them.”

“So are they able to ask good questions? Are they able to think critically about the media they consume, whether it’s written or something they see on TV? Have we given them enough opportunities to practice that questioning? I think that’s pretty important.”

And that’s true for a specific course of study, say calculus.

“What are we doing all along the way to

Tukwila school Superintendent Nancy Coogan writes about the district’s strategic plan in her column on page 4.


prepare her to think like a mathematician? To speak like a mathematician? To listen and to engage in the kinds of deep critical thinking that are required of a mathematician in that calculus class?” she said. That is a change in thinking, according to the educators.

At the core is “high-quality teaching,” say the educators.

“We want anyone to be able to enter the Tukwila School District and be able to say, ‘This is a high-performing district,’” said Superintendent Nancy Coogan.

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

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2 movingon

Chef Thong Ung, who fled the killing fields of Cambodia and settled with his family in Tukwila, has taken his sons’ advice. He’s going to slow down a bit.

3 readon

Literacy is the heart of education and the Tukwila School District is trying to make sure its students are taught the language of learning.

4 learnon

The main goal of the Tukwila School District is the implementation of its strategic plan, the key document that guides student teaching, learning.

6 playon

The Roberson brothers, Ronnie and Freddie, are key leaders on the Foster High School boys basketball team.

12 swimon

This month’s cover story is about what is ahead for the Tukwila Pool, now that it’s owned and operated by the Tukwila Pool Metropolitan Park District.

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Life's lessons learned on basketball court

I got a lesson in life from the Roberson brothers the other day.

Ronnie and Freddie are stars on the Foster basketball court. Their ability goes way beyond putting up a bunch of points on the scoreboard.

They are students of the game, which makes them students of life, if we abide by the premise that we are all in this together.

After my interview with them, I decided to build my story around a runaway "dunk" that was important to Ronnie because of the few seconds before it.

Ronnie's description of that play is lyrical. The cadence is beautiful, the use of "together" can't help but tug at our hearts. And, it was just so spontaneous. Read it on page 6 of today's Tukwila Reporter.

My lessons from Ronnie: We're stronger together than alone. And our accomplishments are much sweeter when we share them with someone we love.

And then there's Freddie.

Besides taking some brotherly digs as his big brother, he's also showed a wisdom way beyond his 15 years (although I don't think I would push around someone inches taller and pounds heavier than me).

It's my cliché, but there's no "i" in team. He said it much more eloquently. My lessons from Freddie: Take more joy in helping your teammates succeed than in boosting your own success.

All of us work on a team: our families, our co-workers and in sports. The 12th Man is a team and certainly the Seahawks are stronger because of them.

I think the Bulldogs went deep into the postseason last season when they heeded Freddie's advice, even though he wasn't on the team yet. It's a lesson that will benefit us all.

And by the way....

Please don't be the woman in this month's editorial cartoon below.

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Moving schools forward – together

Happy 2015! Like many of you, we in the Tukwila School District also have New Years resolutions. No, we're not talking about hitting the gym (although that's certainly a must on my personal list!). All of our goals and aspirations for the rest of the school year are laid out in the district's strategic plan. Voices from every part of the community came together last year to form this critical document. Based on our common values, the strategic plan lays out our student-learning targets and instructional strategies to get there. This year, my main focus — and that of the district's — is on implementation.

Well, we are already off to a good start in 2015! Last week, we hosted one of the nation's premiere leaders and intellectuals on the issue of social justice and racial divides. Dr. Michael Eric Dyson (you have probably heard him on NPR, seen him on just about every major news program or read him in the New York Times or Times Magazine). He spoke to a packed house about how we, as public servants, need to break through institutional and personal barriers to better serve all



COMMENTARY
Nancy Coogan

children. Included in that was an incredible dialogue led by our students about rebuilding trust between authority figures and communities of color. And just to make the event even more beautiful? It was on the eve of Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday.

There is honestly no other community in the U.S. where this conversation is more important or more relevant. As it relates to our district's strategic plan, we understand that our main instructional strategies for educating students must include equitable access for all children, caring and effective adults, and a supportive climate with strong relationships with families and the community. In other words, we all have the responsibility of joining in a collective conversation about how we overcome our differences to focus on the success of each and every child.

That is why we started the Intercultural Speakers Series, of which Dr. Dyson was the latest presenter. We have been hosting monthly forums with diverse speakers with topics ranging from economics to special education to disproportionality in discipline. If you did not have the chance to see Dr. Dyson or any of our other speakers, please join us for a future forum.

To keep the strategic-plan goals front and center, you will also see our 2017 benchmarks — the targets we have established for every student in the next three years — at the entrance of every school and the Administration Building. These are the achievement measures for which I will be held accountable, and for which I will measure my own progress. Please familiarize yourself with them. For the 2014-16 school year, we are focused on three of the benchmarks in particular: Continuous academic growth for each student (who will make one year's academic growth each year), accelerated growth for underperforming students (who will show at least 1 1/2 years growth in literacy and math), and timely interventions (reduce by 30 percent the number of students who trigger early warning indicators in the areas of attendance, discipline, and grades).

[more COOGAN page 5]



COMMENTARY
Chuck Parrish

When all is said and done, Tukwila staff, process is good

Some believe that the responsibility for what happens in Tukwila lays at the feet of its citizens. In a representative democracy, we are responsible for whom we elect. However, we are not responsible for all decisions made by council and mayor. The evidence is clear from low participation levels that residents do expect elected officials to look after their best interests. It is also clear that the level of public involvement tends to correlate with specific issues. Think casinos, think Tukwila Pool,

think Tukwila Village, think Tukwila International Boulevard. Most times it is collaborative; sometimes adversarial. After all, elected individuals can make mistakes. Tukwila International Boulevard Action Committee is a great example of sustained organized citizen involvement.

Some believe that policy makers automatically give a thumbs up to staff recommendations. This belief is simplistic. Staff is critical to a decision-making process. Their work is expected to be thorough

and buttressed by multiple considerations. Staff recommendations often reflect the earlier input of council and the public. Lastly, the City Council makes decisions in a public setting. While nothing is perfect, we have a good staff and a good process.

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

Kruller elected to lead council

Tukwila City Council member Kate Kruller was elected by her peers to serve as the council president this year at the Jan. 5 council meeting.

"I am honored to serve as the council president in 2015 and look forward to working with my colleagues and the Administration on behalf of the residents and businesses here in our great City of Tukwila," said Kruller.

Kruller also will serve this year as the president of the Tukwila Pool Metropolitan Park District commission.

The council has reorganized its committees for the year:

- Community Affairs and Parks Committee - second and fourth Mondays of every month at City Hall at 5:30 p.m. Chair Verna Seal, members Dennis Robertson and Allan Ekberg

- Finance and Safety Committee - first and third Tuesdays at City Hall at 5:30 p.m. Chair Kathy Hougardy, members Joe Duffie and De'Sean Quinn

- Utilities Committee- second and fourth Tuesdays at the 6300 building in the Public Works Department at 5:30 p.m. Chair Dennis Robertson, members Verna Seal and De'Sean Quinn

- Transportation Committee - first and third Mondays at the 6300 build-

ing in the Public Works Department at 5:30 p.m. Chair Joe Duffie and members Allan Ekberg, Kathy Hougardy

The Tukwila City Council has an annual reorganization in the first meeting in January, and council presidents are historically chosen in a rotating fashion based on seniority. Committees are assigned by the new council president who also determines who will serve as Committee Chairs.

Tukwila's elected officials also serve on additional committees, boards and commissions:

- National
 - National League of Cities' Information Technology and Communications Steering Committee
 - National League of Cities' Transportation Infrastructure and Services Steering Committee
 - National League of Cities' First-Tier Suburbs Council
 - National League of Cities' Council on Youth, Education and Families

- Statewide
 - Association of Washington Cities' Board of Directors



Kate Kruller

- Washington State Commission on African American Affairs.

Regional

- Sound Cities Association Board of Directors
- Cascade Water Alliance Board of Directors
- Administrative Board of Valley Communications Center
- Administrative Board of SCORE (South Correctional Entity)
- Sound Cities Association's King Conservation District Advisory Board
- Sound Cities Association's Public Issues Committee
- Sound Cities Association's Regional Law Safety and Justice Committee
- Water Resource Inventory Area 9 (WRIA 9)
- Water Resources Inventory Area 9 Management Committee
- Puget Sound Regional Council Regional Transit Oriented Development Advisory Committee
- City of Tukwila Equity and Diversity Committee
- Highline Forum
- South County Area Transportation Board
- Soundside Alliance for Economic Development Board
- King County Executive's Kitchen Cabinet



Tukwila Police officers, including Zack Anderson, above, and city employees toured neighborhoods in Tukwila Dec. 19, handing out candy canes and toys as Christmas carols played over their car's loudspeakers. *City of Tukwila*

Officers spread cheer

Tukwila Police officers spread holiday cheer throughout Tukwila Dec. 19 for the Police Department's fourth Holiday Caroling Community Giving event.

Uniformed officers drove their vehicles through neighborhoods with lights flashing and holiday music playing through the loud speakers of their vehicles.

The officers and their riders, who were non-commissioned police personnel and city employees, passed out donated candy canes, stuffed animals and toys.

This event is made possible through the department's Community Relations Committee in partnership with Target, Petsmart, Jared's Galleria of Jewelry and City of Tukwila employees who have assisted with donations of toys or candy canes.

The Community Relations Committee was formed in 2010 with the goal of giving back to the people the city serves and increasing public trust, said city spokeswoman Rachel Bianchi.

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In other exciting news, our school principals are preparing for their first "data summit," in which they will report back to the School Board and the community about their progress toward meeting these benchmarks. They will be doing a test run this month, which will kick off a regular series of data summits (every six to eight weeks). Just like taking your pulse, we need to monitor our vital signs very frequently to make sure our system is healthy and on the right track. We will begin to publicly post the reports from the data summits very soon, and, of course, the public is always encouraged to attend the school board meetings when the data will be presented.

Not only do I invite you to monitor our progress, I welcome it! The strategic plan is not my document, it is OURS — the entire community's. As Dr. Dyson said, "Justice is what love sounds like when it speaks in public." We are all in this together; it's time for us to speak our truth and stand up for our children.

In service,
Dr. Nancy Coogan
 Tukwila School Superintendent
 Dr. Nancy Coogan can be reached at ncoogan@tukwila.wednet.edu.

To learn more about the strategic plan, go to www.tukwila.wednet.edu and look under the top "About Our District" tab; for the upcoming Intercultural Speakers Series line up, look under the "Our Community" tab.

Pact assures city water

The Washington Department of Ecology has signed an agreement with a consortium of five cities, including Tukwila, and two water and sewer districts in King County for permanent and temporary trust water donations that will protect flows for fish in the White River through 2034 and beyond.

It's the largest trust water donation in Washington state history. Enough water to fill a football field 130 miles deep will stay in the White River for perpetuity, according to an ecology department press release.

"Big things happen when the state, local governments and tribes come together to form strategic partnerships," said Ecology Director Maia Belton. "This historic donation protects water levels for fish, guarantees water supplies for people, and preserves Lake Tapps as a vital community asset for decades to come."

On Jan. 17, 2015, Cascade Water Alliance will make its permanent donation of 684,571 acre feet of water to the state's Trust Water Rights Program. The donation will preserve instream flows and protect fish habitat in a stretch of the White River that flows through the Muckleshoot Tribal Reservation. Cascade is the water purveyor for eight King County cities and two water and sewer districts.

This month's transaction completes the agreement Cascade made with Ecology in 2010 to donate a portion of the water rights it acquired in the purchase of Lake Tapps in Pierce County to the trust water program. In addition, Cascade will donate another 154,751 acre feet of water to the Temporary Trust water rights program until 2034.

The trust water donation keeps water in the river for the benefit of fish, wildlife, recreation and the natural environment.

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For **Roberson** brothers dream comes true on basketball court

BY **DEAN A. RADFORD**

DRADFORD@TUKWILAREPORTER.COM

A highlight of the Foster basketball season for Ronnie Roberson so far is the game against Evergreen, not because the Bulldogs played well and he got a dunk.

It's what led up to that dunk: playing with his younger brother Freddie.

"When my brother passed it to me and I got the fast break, it was like, a surge of emotions. This is that click. This is brother playing with brother, older and younger, all together, doing the same thing on the court, together, helping each other out.

"Basically, it was like a dream come true," he says.

Senior Ronnie, a co-captain, and freshman Freddie are the leading scorers on the Bulldog boys basketball team, which stood at 3-5 after a loss to league-leading Kennedy Catholic on Jan. 14.

You might call the team a band of brothers, in the figurative sense as well as the literal one. Three sets of brothers play for the team, but the Robersons are the only ones who play together.

Varsity co-captain Mohamed Abdi's brother Hanad plays junior varsity and varsity junior Ericsson Leasure's brother Erin, a freshman, plays on the junior varsity team.

Foster Coach Isaac Tucker says the importance of the Robersons to the team is hard to put into words. "We drop off very fast when either of them isn't on the court," he says. Ronnie is 6-foot-5; the roster says Freddie is 5-foot-

11, but he's not much shorter than Ronnie.

Tucker is confident in saying both should receive first-team Seamount League honors – "they're that good," he said.

"They're dynamic together on the floor is very fluid, they play to each other's strengths as you'd expect from siblings; they know where and when the other needs the ball to be successful," he said.

But to their credit, Tucker says, "they also look for their teammates as much as they look for each other; what sets them apart is that they play with more energy and have a competitive streak that most kids just don't have."

Standing in the coaches' office, the Robersons talked about themselves and each other, only as brothers can, and their team. Based on what they had to say, Tucker has them down pat.

Ronnie offered up Freddie's biggest strength on the court – the ability to read what the other team is doing. And he's not a one-man show.

"He's able to take command," says Ronnie. "Even when I am off the floor, he's able to use what he has learned and then put it to use. That involves his teammates and himself at the same time."

Freddie will go for, like, five points a game, but if he gets 12 assists to help teammates get points, then that's a win for him, says Ronnie, 18.

"He always puts his team first before anything else," he says. Freddie averages nearly 4 assists a game

Freddie's assessment of Ronnie is simple: "He's like the



Roberson brothers Freddie, left, and Ronnie lead by example on the Foster basketball court. *Dean A. Radford/Tukwila Reporter*

muscle of the team."

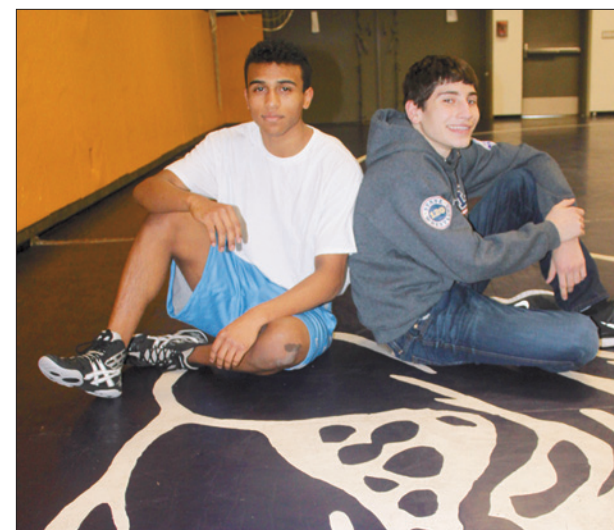
"He's basically the most aggressive player on the team, one of the hardest workers on the team," he said. "Even when he misses the shot, he's going to keep going for the

[\[more ROBERSONS page 7 \]](#)

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Foster wrestlers Luis Cuellar, left, and Cale Woyvodich, have sights set on return to state. *Dean A. Radford/Tukwila Reporter*

Foster wrestlers' goal again is Mat Classic

BY **DEAN A. RADFORD**

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By the smallest of painful margins, Cale Woyvodich's quest for a third trip to the state wrestling tournament came to end a year ago, his spleen cut in half.

Ranked No. 1 in state 2A at 120 pounds, he won his first two matches – the first with a pin 54 seconds into the match and the second 4-2 in overtime in the regional tournament.

But he had to forfeit the championship match because

[\[more WRESTLERS page 11 \]](#)

[ROBERSONS from page 6]

ball, until he gets the ball back.” Ronnie averages 16.6 rebounds a game.

Ronnie says Freddie is the best shooter, “by a little bit.”

“I’ve got the touch,” says Freddie.

“He’s got a little more of the touch,” Ronnie says. “I’ve been working on my force.”

For the record, through the 1-point loss to Renton High on Jan. 9, Ronnie has scored 237 points, or an average 18.2 points

a game, to Freddie’s 217 points or 16.7 points a game.

They have nicknames. Freddie’s is Derber. When he loses focus, like throwing the ball toward a referee rather than a fellow player, that’s a Derber moment, says Ronnie. Freddie’s nickname for Ronnie is Reginald, after a middle school friend Freddie did “dumb stuff with on the court.”

Yes, according to Freddie, Ronnie is sometimes uncoordinated. Ronnie says that’s an exaggeration. He didn’t get called for traveling in the Seattle Christian

game. Playing one-on-one, Ronnie fell down, but Ronnie says Freddie pushed him.

Even though the Bulldogs lost 58-57, Freddie says the highlight of his season so far is the game against Renton.

“I felt like this was the first time we were all playing together,” he says. “Nobody was being selfish with the ball. Nobody has attitude. Even when we were down, we were still playing together.”

Coach Tucker says Freddie, Jordan Magee, another freshman starter, and freshman Elijah Nna-

nubu are the heart of the program going forward, along with freshmen Jaloni Garner and Musa Leigh and sophomore Khalfani Carter.

“We are very young this year, and we’ll be young again next year, but that is far from a bad thing,” said Tucker. “It’s exactly what we need to build a strong program over the next few years... sky’s the limit for this group of young, but skilled, basketball players.”

Ronnie’s plans for after Foster include playing basketball at

a community college that offers forensic science. Since he was young, he’s always wanted to get into law.

Ronnie and Freddie have played basketball with and against each other for years. They’re competitive with each other, which Ronnie says helps keep them sharp.

“In high school, it’s like, this is the last time playing with each other. So we just have to do it,” Freddie says.

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

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Mayor's Message

As we begin this new year, Tukwila can look back with pride at its 2014 accomplishments that brought this community closer to achieving many of the goals set forth in our Strategic Plan. I want to share my areas of special focus for 2015.

Improving residential quality of life and a positive image of Tukwila – Through heightened cross-departmental emphasis, stepped up enforcement in a number of areas and expanded community outreach, we expect to make some tangible improvements to our residential areas. From public safety to traffic calming to expanding opportunities for our young people, there are a number of things the City can do in 2015 to make a real difference for the residents of Tukwila.

Building long-term financial stability – The City's finances and commitment to fiscal prudence has been an objective of my tenure here at Tukwila, and I intend to leave the City better than I found it. While we did not have to raise taxes in the 2015-2016 biennial budget, at some point current expenditures will outstrip revenues, which has the potential to significantly disrupt the City. By taking the time now to tackle issues such as a potential annexation into the Regional Fire Authority, developing a strong plan for future public facilities, and embarking on an economic development plan, we can continue to lay a strong foundation for our City's future.

Much about Tukwila is unique, from the highly diverse range of ethnicities and languages in the city to the history that founded us. Our role as a regional retail and employment hub is another aspect of what makes Tukwila different and, while it brings with it additional responsibilities and impacts, it is also true that the health of our City relies on this income generator that positively impacts every resident within Tukwila. Maintaining and strengthening a healthy retail, manufacturing and employment environment in our City is absolutely key to ensuring a high quality of life for everyone in our community.

Encouraging an inclusive organization – The City has done a lot over the past year to continue to strive for organizational excellence. However, I know there is more that can be done and this year I look forward to further encouraging an inclusive organization that lives up to our values of caring, professional and responsive, and to successfully realize the City's Mission: *To provide superior services that support a safe, inviting and healthy environment for our residents, businesses and guests.*

I strongly believe that the City's concerted efforts in addressing these areas of special focus can make positive impacts to our neighborhoods and to those who live there. This will be my last year serving as mayor of this great City. I face 2015 feeling doubly blessed: as someone who is fortunate to be doing a job that he loves, and as a Tukwila resident who looks forward to enjoying the betterment of my community.

Jim Haggerton
Jim Haggerton
Mayor, City of Tukwila

TukTV – Now on the air

The City of Tukwila is bringing enhanced programming to its Comcast Channel 21. In early January, Channel 21 was renamed TukTV and now features our first original show titled "Tukwila: Your Community," rebroadcasts of Council meetings, and content developed by other sources. When video is not running, an extensive rotating set of slides displays a variety of information on the channel.

Residents without Comcast service can access TukTV via the City's website. Find TV content at TukwilaWA.gov.



Phishing: Be informed & be aware!

Phishing is the 21st-century version of an old and dishonorable crime known as the confidence trick. The tricksters misrepresent themselves in order to gain trust and then deceive individuals and businesses into sharing personal or financial information. Like everywhere else in the world, Tukwila residents and businesses are at risk.

With the use of computers, criminals are attempting to persuade their victims to share their user names, passwords, credit card information and other banking and identifying details. In the case of businesses, they also try to capture sensitive commercial data.

Just how big is the phishing problem? In a report from the security vendor Kapersky Labs, data analyzed from 50 million users over a recent two year period revealed that 37 million, or 74%, had been subject to phishing incidents. One in nine of these attacks was emailed. Other attack methods utilized browser pop-up ads, banners and forums, and blog and social media messages.

In a recent security intelligence report, Microsoft stated that 9.5 billion phishing attacks were sent by email between July and October 2013. Google reports it detects 25,000 new phishing sites each week. Besides identity theft, frustration, angst, loss of sensitive data, anger, feelings of vulnerability and the breach of security, the annual cost of these attacks is in the billions.

Holiday miracles made possible by local residents and businesses *Thanks!*

It's amazing to witness the compassion and support that came from the Tukwila community, making the 2014 Spirit of Giving Program such a success. Each year, the Tukwila Parks and Recreation Department, along with the Tukwila School District and the Tukwila Children's Foundation, coordinate the Spirit of Giving Program to provide local children and families with gifts, food and a lot of hope coming into the holiday season.

We sincerely thank the businesses, community organizations and residents for their generosity in helping make this program possible. Because of their generous contributions, we were able to help over 350 local children have a wonderful holiday! Our special thanks go out to those identified here, and to the countless volunteers and anonymous donors!

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- ♥ Insurance Professionals of South King County
- ♥ Macy's Operation and Logistics Department
- ♥ Retro Active Kids ♥ Riverton Park Methodist Church
- ♥ Safeguard by Advent Print Resources
- ♥ Southgate Garden Club ♥ Strong-Bridge Consulting
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- ♥ Tukwila Children's Foundation ♥ Tukwila Fire Dept.
- ♥ Tukwila Library Advisory Board ♥ Tukwila Police Dept.
- ♥ Tukwila School District Employees ♥ Wells Fargo
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While these attacks cannot be eliminated entirely, here are some ways to thwart the criminals from achieving their goals:

- For both individuals and businesses, there is a measure of prevention through security awareness and training. Educated users are less likely to be victims of phishing or cyber-crime.
- Some of these attacks can be stopped through software. Keep your software up-to-date, effective and secure, and always install your patches and fixes from your legitimate provider in a timely manner.
- Trust your "gut feeling." If something doesn't look or feel quite right, check it out further before proceeding. Many times the tricksters will set up a site that closely resembles (looks like or is *almost* named the same as) a legitimate site.
- Be suspicious of pop-ups that tell you to install document viewers or security updates. Go directly to your software vendor and ask them if they have put out these warnings.
- If an offer or deal just seems too good to be true, it is! Don't go there!

MAYOR: Jim Haggerton
COUNCIL PRESIDENT: Kate Kruller

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Joe Duffie • Dennis Robertson • Allan Ekberg
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Learn about Tukwila's Storm and Surface Water Management program – information online at TukwilaWA.gov/SSWM.pdf

City to receive over \$5 million in grant funding for Tukwila's bridges

In November of 2013, the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) put out a Call for Projects for the Local Agency Bridge Program, which provides funding assistance to local governments for improving the conditions of bridges through replacement, rehabilitation and preventative maintenance. The City of Tukwila identified three bridges that needed preventative maintenance which, when combined, exceed \$5 million in repairs. In December 2014, the City was notified that we were granted the full amount of \$5,261,899.00! Here are some specifics about each bridge, maintenance needed and specific funding:

Originally constructed in 1968 and widened in 1996, the **Frank Zepp Bridge** on South 180th Street over the Green River is an important part of the region's east-west connectivity. With the influx of this grant funding, the City will be able to make necessary repairs, including replacing joints and seals, as well as completely repaint and seal the bridge, therefore extending the life of the structure. The City will pay \$51,687.60 in matching funds to leverage \$2,948,312.40 in Federal funding for the project.

The bridge at **Grady Way** which extends over the railroad tracks has previously been identified as in need of seismic upgrades to ensure stability in an earthquake. Given the importance of Grady Way for east-west connections, the daily volume of traffic and the potential impact on a railroad were there to be a failure, this bridge was identified as at the top of Tukwila's vulnerability list. To make these much-needed seismic improvements, the City's \$3,317.12 in matching funds will leverage \$233,041.88 in Federal funding for this project.

The **Beacon Avenue South Bridge** over South Ryan Way is a steel box girder bridge with an asphalt-filled, corrugated steel pan deck. The funding for this bridge will enable the City to remove and replace the existing bridge deck which will allow the City to increase the bridge's capacity, address major moisture issues and repaint the entire bridge. For this project the City will pay \$31,624.40 in matching funds to leverage \$1,993,915.60 in Federal funding.



City seeks volunteers to serve on Regional Fire Authority annexation steering committee

A committee is being formed to review the option of annexing the Tukwila Fire Department to the Kent Regional Fire Authority. The committee's purpose is to make a recommendation to the City Council by the end of 2015. The City is looking for representatives from the Tukwila business and residential communities who will work with the City, Tukwila firefighters and representatives of the Kent Regional Fire Authority.

Areas to be explored include but are not limited to financial impacts, governance, asset allocation, and levels of service. The plan is for the committee to meet twice a month beginning in March, going through summer and into fall. Subcommittees may meet more often in order to collect and develop information and recommendations for the full committee. Meetings will be scheduled for the time that works best for all members.

Interested individuals are encouraged to fill out the Boards and Commissions application and submit it for consideration, no later than February 6, 2015. The form can be found on the City's website at TukwilaWA.gov. Click the "Mayor's Office" link at our left of our homepage then click on "Boards and Commissions." For additional information, please contact project manager Moira Bradshaw at 206-431-3651 or Moira.Bradshaw@TukwilaWA.gov.

More information about the RFA – along with a summary of the work conducted by an exploratory committee in 2014, and answers to frequently-asked questions about annexation to the RFA – can be found by clicking the link under "Phase II Fire Exploratory Committee," on the City's website: TukwilaWA.gov.

Citizen boards and commissions

The City of Tukwila is assisted in its operations by the volunteers who serve on our Boards and Commissions, providing advice and recommendations in several areas of governmental activities. Volunteers perform an important function by offering their time and expertise. Anyone interested in serving on a Board or Commission can complete an application and submit it to City Hall. Applications are reviewed and appointments are made by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council. There are currently vacant positions on these Boards and Commissions:

- Arts Commission
- Civil Service Commission
- Community Police Advisory Board
- Human Services Advisory Board

Information about all of the City's Boards and Commissions, along with the Application for Appointment form, can be found on the City's website at TukwilaWA.gov. Click the "Mayor's Office" link at our left of our homepage, then click on "Boards and Commissions." If you have any questions, you can also call 206-433-1850.



by Kate Kruller,
2015 Council President

No form of government impacts everyone more than local government, so serving as a Tukwila City Councilmember comes with great responsibility. Similarly, constituents have the important responsibility of knowing what their Council does. To help, I have outlined some key areas of Council authority and duties we perform on behalf of the citizens.

The Tukwila City Council is the legislative branch of the City. Seven people living in Tukwila are elected as Councilmembers by voters in Tukwila. Any resident of at least one year, who is a registered voter, can run for any Council position when a four-year term is up, or apply for an appointment if a Councilmember is unable to complete their term. While technically a part-time position, it requires a lot of time "off the clock" to stay in touch with constituents, attend meetings and events, engage the business community, represent the City on committees, research issues and identify solutions.

The City Council's primary job is to represent residents, but it must also consider those who work in and visit our city in the course of establishing policy. Key City documents – such as the Tukwila Municipal Code, Strategic Plan, Shoreline Management Plan, Comprehensive Plan, Capital Improvement programs and more – are approved by your City Council with a formal vote.

Your Council also holds authority over the "purse strings," or the City budget, which is adopted during even years and amended as needed during odd years. The Council also authorizes the Mayor to sign large-fund contracts, interlocal agreements and negotiated labor agreements.

There are four standing Council committees established to address specific areas of governmental focus as set forth in the Tukwila Municipal Code: Transportation, Finance and Safety, Utilities, and Community Affairs and Parks (CAP). Three Councilmembers serve on each of these committees, working closely with professionals on the City staff to review, recommend or amend, and forward items on to the full Council.

The seven Councilmembers can discuss these items together at Committee of the Whole meetings, held at 7:00PM on the second and fourth Mondays of every month. Final actions are taken at the Regular Meetings on the first and third Mondays of every month at 7:00PM.

All Council and committee meetings take place at the City Hall campus and are open to the public; anyone wishing to observe them in progress is welcome to attend. For more information about meeting schedules and other activities of the City Council, including current agendas, click the "City Council" link at our left of our homepage: TukwilaWA.gov.

I look forward to serving as your 2015 Tukwila City Council President.

Council Chat

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 - Car Dealer / Automotive / Tire Service _____
 - Catering _____
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 - Nail Salon _____
 - Senior Living Facility _____

- People**
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 - Bartender / Location _____
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 - Realtor _____
 - Veterinarian _____
 - Waiter-Waitress / Location _____

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[WRESTLERS from page 6]

of a season-ending injury in the second match.

Woyvodich and his opponent had landed awkwardly. "He picked me up to return me to the mat. His knuckles were angled underneath my ribs. It was literally the perfect thing," he said

Woyvodich would have been fine if those knuckles had landed just a centimeter away.

"I was ranked No. 1 all year long. I had

all the dreams and goals set out in front of me," he said, but "it was just ripped away just like in a matter of seconds."

"It was pretty heart-breaking," he said.

He had to convince a lot of people, including his parents and his year-round coach, that he was ready for the mat. He told everyone, "Hey it's OK. I am not going to do that again," he said.

He won, by a fall, in 20 seconds.

Woyvodich, again ranked No. 1 in the state, and teammate Luis Cuellar are on

track to compete in the Mat Classic state tournament next month in Tacoma.

Woyvodich of Tukwila is a senior at Seattle Christian School but wrestles for Foster. Cuellar, a Foster junior, and Woyvodich wrestled together at Showalter Middle School; Patrick Kalalau was their coach then as he is now.

Kalalau ranks them as two of the best wrestlers at Foster ever.

Cuellar and Woyvodich were the Seamount League champions last season,

Cuellar at 113 pounds and Woyvodich at 120 pounds. This season, Cuellar is wrestling at 132 pounds.

Woyvodich placed fourth in the state tournament as a freshman at 106 pounds and a sophomore at 113 pounds.

Cuellar competed in last year's Mat Classic, losing his first two rounds.

Woyvodich is still making his college plans and he's leaving it on the table whether he wrestles at the college level.

"Definitely, education has to come first."

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Hair Salon/Barber Shop _____
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Attorney/Law Firm _____
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Restaurants
Asian Cuisine _____
BBQ _____
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Tukwila Pool ready for next mission

BY DEAN A. RADFORD

DRADFORD@TUKWILAREPORTER.COM

Not much has changed IN the Tukwila Pool since Jan. 1 – the lights are on and the water's warm. You can still swim laps and walk in (if not on) the water.

But behind the scenes, the change is dynamic – new phones, new computers, for example – something most pool patrons won't even notice.

"The community needs to know," said Kate Kruller. "It's just like it was before."

Kruller is president of the Tukwila Pool Metropolitan Park District commission as well as president of the Tukwila City Council.

The pool facility next to Foster High School was closed for about two weeks, reopening Jan. 5, while the City of Tukwila removed its equipment and the new operator, the park district, set up shop and trained staff.

That was the first official day at the pool for the new aquatics manager, Dave Perkins. For several weeks he worked behind the scenes to help in the transition of pool to the pool district as of the first of the year.

"I am very happy with the way they left the facility for us to take over," said Perkins. The city left behind a supply of chemicals, deep cleaned the pool and put in new filters.

Perkins has 25 years of experience as an aquatics specialist; he was recreation coordinator for the City of Renton for 13 years.

Kruller describes Perkins as a good listener and approachable.

"I am hoping it's a big community group hug when they meet him," she said.

Perhaps the biggest obvious change for now, at least, is in the faces. The two key managers at the pool for many years, Amy Kindell and Malcolm Neely, now have different jobs with the City of Tukwila.

Kindell is doing marketing and stewardship for the Tukwila Parks and Recreation Department and Neely is with parks maintenance.

"They are loved," said Kruller of Kindell and Neely. Neely worked at the pool since 2002, when the city took it over from King County.

The pool was built in the early 1970s, using money from the Forward Thrust program. Tukwila's voters created the park district in August 2011.

The park district also hired Steven Burke as a consultant to assist in the transition until a new executive director is hired.

The current fees to use the pool won't change immediately under the park district. Hours and programming won't change, but that could change after Perkins completes an in-depth assessment of the pool's slow and busy times and commissioners talk about community needs with the community.



Dave Perkins is the aquatics manager at the Tukwila Pool. **ON THE COVER:** In the foreground Mercedes Meadows of Seattle plays with daughter Wren, 3, who is learning to get used to the water. Meadows likes the Tukwila Pool because she can come when her daughter isn't distracted. Behind them, swimmers exercise in the pool. *Dean A. Radford/Tukwila Reporter*

Swim lessons will resume on Feb. 1; registration began on Monday, Jan. 19, either by phone or in-person. They weren't held in January so that staff could work on the transition.

For sure, the Tukwila community will have a big say in what happens next at the Tukwila Pool. The pool district commissioners will talk about their vision for the pool's future at a retreat later this month.

Perkins expects to do a lot of listening to the community of pool users and engaging Tukwila's diverse community in the conversation.

He and Kruller talk about tailoring the programming to the needs of the community.

"The most important thing is to get programs in here that the community wants," Perkins said. "We can run a program and no one likes it and no one shows up. That's not what I want to do."

The Tukwila Pool is the home swimming pool for the Kennedy Catholic High School boys and girls swim teams and the Foster High girls swim team.

There's a "strong commitment" to resume an elective PE swim class at the pool for the district's secondary students next year, according to Sara Niegowski, a Tukwila School District spokeswoman. Supt. Nancy Coogan and Perkins have talked about the classes.

"They key – and the reason why swimming was not available this year – is making sure that we have a staff member who is available and qualified to oversee the program and be onsite with the students when they go to the pool," Niegowski said.

Sustain Tukwila Pool, which has worked for years to save the pool from closing and then sustain it, would like to see every child in Tukwila learn water safety and how to swim, says its co-chair, Christine Neuffer.

There's also a need for more community events at the pool, she said.

"Overall, we are optimistic about the potential possibilities with this change," she said, of pool district operations.

The future of the pool is still to be worked out, but Perkins has some guiding principles. One is teaching everyone to swim.

"Living here in the Northwest, it's a pretty important skill to have," he said.

But for many in Tukwila's diverse communities, swimming is not part of their culture, he said, which is one reason he would like to introduce different cultures to the pool and swimming on their own special nights.

It's a vision that Perkins shares with Kruller, and, she says, with the rest of the parks district commission. She would add pool users of a "more mature age" to a list of those she would like to see learn to swim.

On STP's wish list is a greater variety and

pool details

Swim lessons

Swim lessons resume on Feb. 1. Registration for the lessons started on Monday, Jan. 19, either by phone, 206-267-2350, or in person at the pool, 4414 S. 144th St., next to Foster High School. Aquatics manager Dave Perkins or a staff member would like to speak with a child's parents to ensure they are placed in the right class for their skill level.

New staff

Anyone interested in lifeguarding or in instructing at the pool should contact Perkins at the pool or by phone. He'd especially like to speak with bilingual instructors.

Commission meetings

The Tukwila Pool Metropolitan Park District commission will meet at 6:30 p.m., the fourth Thursday of the month, at the King County Water District 125, office, 3460 S. 148th St., Suite 110, Tukwila. The commission had met at Tukwila City Hall.

(Note: The commission will meet in a special meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 29, at the water district office.)

hours for fitness programming for adults and seniors, Neuffer said.

The options are wide open for the pool, starting with making no changes at all, Kruller said. Perkins is bringing "fresh ideas" to the table and the Tukwila Pool Advisory Committee, a citizens group, will participate more in the discussion, she said.

Everyone has good ideas, she said.

"We have to figure out how to corral them. Figure out how to prioritize them. Figure out whether we can afford them," she said. And then talk over the ideas with the community to "implement what makes sense," she said.

Kruller praised the work of Sustain Tukwila Pool, other volunteers and fellow commissioners for their efforts to "benchmark" how the Tukwila Pool stacked up against other pools in the region. The information became a source of new ideas.

"Sustain Tukwila Pool sees the pool as a vital community asset," said Neuffer

The advantage of the pool being operated by the pool district, she said, "is that there can now be direct accountability and reporting to the board.

"This new model has the potential to be more sustainable, responsive, nimble and innovative in areas such as fiscal accountability, customer experience and programming," she said.

"I am hoping it's a big community group hug when they meet him."

Kate Kruller, president, pool district commission, on Dave Perkins

tukwila'sstory

Orillia, once vital, remembered in name only

BY PAT BRODIN

TUKWILA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Many folks are familiar with Orillia Road which passes through the southwestern portion of Tukwila from South 188th Street and winds its way down the hill to South 212th Street in Kent. Orillia is also a

The name came from the Spanish word 'orilla,' or shore of a lake or river.

Pat Brodin

place name where a small rural community once thrived, including with its own post office and school. You many remember a previous history

article about "wood-stave" pipe that supplied water to the locals from well sources through the Orillia Water Company. But how did this little neighborhood get the name 'Orillia'?

Let's take a step back into the late 1800s when early settlers recognized the value in the rich soil of the upper Duwamish,



The Orillia School served the large farming community in the Green River Valley. Here is a school class in 1905. *Tukwila Historical Society*

Green, and White River valley. This fertile region extended from Georgetown and Boeing Field all the way south to Puyallup. Word traveled fast in those days and many were led by the promise of establishing a

homestead with some acreage of farmland for crops and livestock. Orillia was located at the southerly limits of Tukwila and in the City of Kent. The Orillia Post Office served the Renton Junction community

and the two communities comprised a single voting precinct. By 1930, the Orillia voting precinct had a total population of 1,026 people.

Many towns across Washington received their names from the first postmaster. In 1887, Malcolm McDougall was appointed U.S. postmaster for this vicinity and coined it after his hometown of Orillia, Canada, in southern Ontario. The most widely accepted account indicates that it originated with a variant spelling from the Spanish "orilla," signifying the shore of either a lake or river. Orillia is on the inlet between the larger Lake Simcoe and the lesser Lake Couchiching. Ironically the namesake Canadian town of Orillia prospered as a result of agriculture and lumbering. Another paradoxical aspect is that along the inlet near Orillia, fishing weirs were used by the Huron and Iriquois Indians for more than 4,000 years. Similarly, Puget Sound Salish tribes such as the Native Duwamish people used weirs to gather returning salmon.

Pat Brodin is a member of the Tukwila Historical Society. The society operates the Tukwila Heritage and Cultural Center, 14475 59th Ave. S. The center can be reached by phone at 206-244-HIST or via email at tukwilaheritagectr@tukwilahistory.org.

Business certification workshop set

Washington State Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises, which has been the lead agency in certifying minority and women-owned businesses, is holding a workshop in Tukwila.

The office helps businesses so they may obtain state contracts and procurement opportunities.

It will put on a workshop, 10 a.m.-noon, Jan. 22, at the Foster Library, 4060 S. 144th St., to inform all of the various certifications that are available as an entrée into government contracting.

Although OMWBE is the sole certifying

agency for minority, women, and disadvantaged small businesses in Washington State, it is important that business owners be aware of all options when it comes to certifications.

Many private sector companies recognize and use OMWBE's state certified firms for their supplier diversity goals, such as Boeing.

This workshop is free and open to the public for any business or private individual thinking of starting a business to attend. Visit: <http://omwbe.wa.gov/certification> for more information.

Help signing up for voucher

The Tukwila School District will open a computer lab to offer assistance on Feb. 3 to aid in applying for Section 8 housing vouchers.

King County Housing Authority's (KCHA) Section 8 voucher program helps people with low income rent homes. With a voucher, recipients pay at least 28 percent, but not more than 40 percent, of their household income for rent and utilities. KCHA pays the difference.

An important event is coming up for anyone who wants to apply for Section 8

vouchers: KCHA will accept online-only applications from 6 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28, through 4 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 10. A random lottery drawing will be used to select 2,500 of these applicants for the Section 8 waiting list. More information and the application are available at www.kcha.org.

If you don't have access to a computer, the Tukwila School District is opening a computer lab at Foster High School from 5-8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3, to help all families who would like to sign up for the lottery.

Tukwila news online everyday at tukwilareporter.com



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school connection

Tukwila School District #406

January 2015

Answering the Governor's call: Educating for STEM diversity

Innovative Student Bio Expo teams Foster High students with high-tech mentors

Last month Washington Gov. Jay Inslee and national leader Rev. Jesse Jackson came together on the Microsoft campus to declare that the future of our economy relies on preparing more students—especially minorities and women—for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) jobs.

Together Foster High School in Tukwila and the Northwest Association for Biomedical Research (NWABR) are preparing to meet that challenge! For the past 15 years, NWABR has hosted a Student Bio Expo that pairs professional scientific mentors with high-school students who sign up to complete a self-selected, school-year-long project that is presented at a judged symposium in May. This year, a special relationship between NWABR and Foster High will ensure that every student in that school's anatomy class will be able to participate with even greater access to a core group of dedicated mentors, the majority of whom work at Adaptive Biotechnologies.

There are 42 Foster High participants in total, representing a vast diversity unheard of in today's state and national STEM fields. (The National Science Board recently released a report showing that historically underrepresented minorities such as African Americans and Hispanics account for only 10 percent of the country's STEM workforce; women account for just 28 percent.) In the Foster group, 98 percent are a non-white minority; almost 75 percent are female; more than half are current or recent English Language Learners (ELL); and most will be the first in their families to attend college.

For the first time in the Expo's history, these Foster students kicked off their project with a special working breakfast with their mentors on Jan. 12 at the Adaptive Biotechnologies building in Seattle. The mentors/mentees met, began planning their Expo projects, and toured the research facilities.

The breakfast was the first step for students to form a close relationship with a practicing scientist, who will be available throughout the coming months to inspire and guide them in rigorous research to support their Expo projects. By visiting the mentors' workplace, students got a sense of what real-world scientists do on a daily basis and begin to envision themselves in similar careers.

"It's really about making it personal for this group of students," said Tim Renz, Foster High's anatomy teacher. "They might believe that a STEM career is out



Foster High's Myly Nguyen examined a flow cell during her tour of the Adaptive Biotechnologies facilities. A flow cell is used to process a DNA sample through a sequencer.

of their reach, but when they begin to see what's possible, when they experience success, when they have a mentor to inspire and model for them, when they see that science is actually interesting and about more than just being a doctor—that's the catalyst for students to change their future."

One of the most appealing parts of the Student Bio Expo is that the teens get to choose both the topic of their scientific research as well as the medium in which they present it, according to Renz. Especially for ELL and minority students, this makes the work highly approachable because it is relevant and relatable to their skills/passions. For instance, one student selected to research breast cancer while his mother underwent treatment; others have chosen to represent their findings in artistic forms like music or sculpture. The research is "hard-core" and industry-based, he said, but the process is creative.

"I'm excited to give Foster High School students an opportunity to visualize themselves as a future STEM scientist," said Dr. Marissa Vignali, senior project manager at Adaptive Biotechnologies. "Adaptive's research touches all aspects of STEM: we work with biology, technology, math, and robotics, so students will be able to explore all these areas as they are mentored by our scientists. In my experience, it's very rewarding to help students see how what they're learning in the classroom can be applied in the real world."



Foster High's Kobae Fulton discussed his Student Bio Expo research project with mentor Anna Sherwood, Adaptive Biotechnologies' Director of Research and Development.

sciences community. The Expo has been a forerunner in supporting the concepts and skills embedded in the Next Generation Science Standards for more than a decade. In addition to Foster High School, students from 18 other local high schools have signed up to participate this year. The 2015 Expo will be May 27 at Shoreline Community College.

Adaptive Biotechnologies is a Seattle-based forerunner of immune-based discoveries and diagnostics to advance science and improve patient care worldwide. The company has enthusiastically stepped up to mentor 85 percent of the Foster High students because it is dedicated to encouraging the next generation of scientists in Washington state.

Are you interested in planning the future of Tukwila schools?

Bond committee forming to shape next ballot measure

The Tukwila School District is beginning the process of looking at critical repairs, growing student-space requirements, and programmatic needs for the next decade and beyond. A committee with representatives from each school and community stakeholder group will begin work to put together a bond proposal in early spring. The committee will meet in the evenings, every other week, through May or until the work is complete. If you are interested in representing the community at large, please contact Sara Niegowski, Director of Communication, at niegowskis@tukwila.wednet.edu.

Celebrate Foster High's 100th birthday!

Community centennial party is Saturday, March 21

Come one, come all: Foster alumni, staff, students, community members, volunteers, business owners—anyone who feels an affinity with Tukwila's dynamic high school, which graduated its first student 100 years ago. The entire community is invited to a celebration on Saturday, March 21, at the school. There will be tours, presentations, entertainment, memorabilia, and an all-ages dance. A full schedule will be posted soon. To RSVP for the event and get updates, go to www.facebook.com/FosterHighSchoolCentennialCelebration.



A celebrity stopped by Showalter Middle School in December: Marissa Meyer! She's the author of the incredibly popular "Cinder" novel. In addition to signing everything from books to cell-phone cases, she told students to stick with it—even though writing can be hard, it's worth it in the end! Thanks, to King County Library System for partnering to provide this opportunity.

Celebrate School Board Appreciation Month

Thank your five community representatives in January

While we give thanks to our Tukwila School Board every month, January is the time when we do so in an official manner! These democratically elected volunteers ensure that your voice is represented in district leadership. In between careers, family, and other community service, this fearless five-some has tackled an ambitious agenda for the Tukwila School District. They directly oversee Superintendent Nancy Coogan, and they have been instrumental in shaping and overseeing progress on the district's new strategic plan. They have also been conducting a comprehensive policy audit, advocating for Tukwila Children in Olympia and Washington D.C., creating key performance indicators for schools, supervising the district's budget and resources, directing a district-wide technology and STEM renaissance, planning ballot measures for decades into the future, and much more. Whew! That's a lot of time, energy, and dedication. Thank you, school board members!

A special message of thanks for each board member from Superintendent Nancy Coogan:



Mary Fertakis: Mrs. Fertakis' drive to improve education is tireless and never-ending (she must have 30-hour days, somehow), and she champions Tukwila students at a regional, state, and national level. She believes in social justice in her core, and she acts on that belief—whether through the Peace Corps in Senegal or her master's program in education policy. She wants all people to have the opportunity to live healthy, free, unlimited lives. Thank you.



Dave Larson: Mr. Larson is the "data guy" on the board, and he is an incredible public steward, always asking "why" and digging deeper, whether at local meetings or with legislators. He quietly and personally works on behalf of all children in unseen ways, such as tutoring students in math each week and spearheading art opportunities like Project Trio's recent visit that allowed every student to experience the relevance of classical music. Thank you.



Steve Mullet: Mr. Mullet is both a voice of historical significance and forward progress on the board. He has an expansive understanding of the culture and people of Tukwila who have lived here for decades, and his passion is for weaving that into a new future that incorporates and honors all of our diverse voices. He and his family are deeply rooted in local education, and he knows that our schools are the key to a thriving community. Thank you.



Mark Wahlstrom: Mr. Wahlstrom has skillfully served as school board president for the past year, and his organization, dedication, leadership, and humor have been key! With a background that proves that resiliency, talent, and a support network can unlock any door in life, he has the rare ability to truly empathize with many of our students. Because of that, he pushes all of us to make sure we are challenging every child to live up his or her potential. Thank you.



Alicia Waterton: Mrs. Waterton's professional business-administration expertise shines through on the board; she takes a balanced, data-driven, unbiased approach to making sure that our students have the best education possible. She is fiercely proud of our students, and also protective: She has a keen interest in emergency preparedness, and she even keeps us alerted to the latest storm/weather movements, thanks to her front-line position with the Port of Seattle. Thank you!

The U.S. Economic Gap Fosters the Educational Achievement Gap

Next Intercultural Speakers Series event is Jan. 22

Don't miss Dr. Stephen Bezruchka's talk about how unprecedented levels of economic inequality in the U.S. compromises children's learning—and how fixing inequality will improve much of what is wrong in this nation. Dr. Bezruchka teaches in the UW Department of Global Health and has worked in clinical medicine for 35 years. He has a medical degree from Stanford, a Master's in Public Health from Johns Hopkins, and a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Harvard.

Details: 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22, in the Tukwila School District boardroom, 4640 S. 144th St.

For more information about this and other upcoming events in the Intercultural Speakers Series, go to www.tukwila.wednet.edu and look under the upper "Our Community" tab.

Need housing? King County will soon accept new applications for Section 8 vouchers

The district will open a computer lab to offer assistance on Feb. 3

King County Housing Authority's (KCHA) Section 8 voucher program helps people with low income rent homes. With a voucher, recipients pay at least 28 percent, but not more than 40 percent, of their household income for rent and utilities. KCHA pays the difference.

An important event is coming up for anyone who wants to apply for Section 8 vouchers: KCHA will accept online-only applications from 6 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28, through 4 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 10. A random lottery drawing will be used to select 2,500 of these applicants for the Section 8 waiting list.

More information and the application are available at www.kcha.org.

If you don't have access to a computer, the Tukwila School District is opening a computer lab at Foster High School from 5-8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3, to help all families who would like to sign up for the lottery.

You must bring: Names, birthdates and social security numbers for all household members; information about your household annual income; an accurate address and phone number; if possible, someone who can read English and can help you use the computer (there will be a limited number of interpreters and volunteers).

Calling all soon-to-be kindergartners!

K registration packets available now; in-person event set for March

Do you live in the Tukwila School District and will your child be 5 years old on or before August 31 this year? Then it's time to register for kindergarten for the 2015-16 school year! In a region-wide effort to enroll our youngest students as soon as possible, kindergarten registration packets are now available in each elementary school's main office. (If you do not know your school of attendance, call 206-901-8000.)

Whether you pick up a packet now or not, all incoming kindergarten families are strongly encouraged to complete the registration process during an in-person event in March, where interpreters will be available and the health team, transportation team, and office staff will be on hand to provide all of the important information. (Please note: we are looking at a separate and earlier registration process for all Tukwila School District preschool programs; stay tuned for more information.) Mark your calendar! The kindergarten registration dates are (you only need to come to one day):

- 5-8 p.m. Friday, March 13, at Showalter Middle School OR
- 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, March 14, at Showalter Middle School



AHHHHH—robots are taking over our elementary schools! Well, robot enthusiasm that is. In December, the first cohort of students in Thorndyke Elementary's Robotics Club had learned enough coding and engineering to build and program simple robots such as tops and levers using the Lego Education WeDo program. A new group of students will start this month, and advisor Laurie Rich says there is a waiting list!



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Sign Up Now for FREE 2015 Cascade Gardener Classes!

Learn how to have beautiful, healthy landscapes while using water more efficiently

Cascade Water Alliance and its members — the cities of Bellevue, Issaquah, Kirkland, Redmond, Tukwila, the Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District and Skyway Water & Sewer District — are offering free gardening classes in a community near you.

Thirty free classes, taught by our team of popular instructors and expert gardening professionals, are being held in February, March and April 2015 on a wide range of topics including:

- **Food Gardening**
- **Plants & Garden Design**
- **Irrigation**

Classes are free but registration is required. Seating is limited so sign up today! For a full schedule of classes and to register visit Cascade Gardener at: www.cascadewater.org or call 1.800.838.3006.

Cascade Gardener Instructors

- Marianne Binetti, radio host, author and columnist
- Emily Bishton, landscape designer and environmental educator
- Jessi Bloom, owner and lead designer of N.W. Bloom EcoLogical Landscapes
- Dan Borba, owner of Natural Rain Water
- Peggy Campbell, Horticulturalist
- Jacqueline Cramer, landscape professional and permaculture designer and educator
- Susie Egan, owner of Cottage Lake Gardens, Master Gardener
- Kimberly Leeper, landscape professional and permaculture designer and educator
- Greg Rabourn, educator, radio personality, author
- Ladd Smith, co-owner, In Harmony Landscape Services
- Carey Thornton, Seattle Tilth

Visit www.cascadewater.org or call 1.800.838.3006 for details or to register. Seating is limited, so sign up today!

Stop by the Cascade Water Alliance and Cascade Gardener booth at the **Northwest Flower and Garden Show**, February 11 – 15, 2015 at the Washington State Convention Center, for FREE flower packets and more!



Cascade Water Alliance

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- City of Redmond
- City of Tukwila
- Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District
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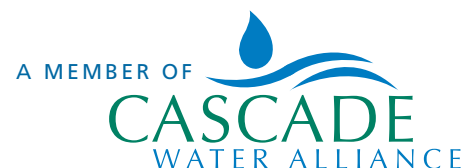
They Represent You



Cascade Board Vice President: **Jim Haggerton**
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Cascade Board Alternate: **Verna Seal**
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