

SAMMAMISH

ISSUE 162

CITY NEWSLETTER

DEC. 2015

Annexation at last!

KLAHANIE-AREA RESIDENTS
JOIN SAMMAMISH ON JAN. 1

In just a few days, thanks to the welcome addition of 10,939 new residents, the city's population will swell to around 60,000.

The annexation, which will become official on the first second of the first minute of 2016, brings the residents of Klahanie and several adjacent neighborhoods into the city.

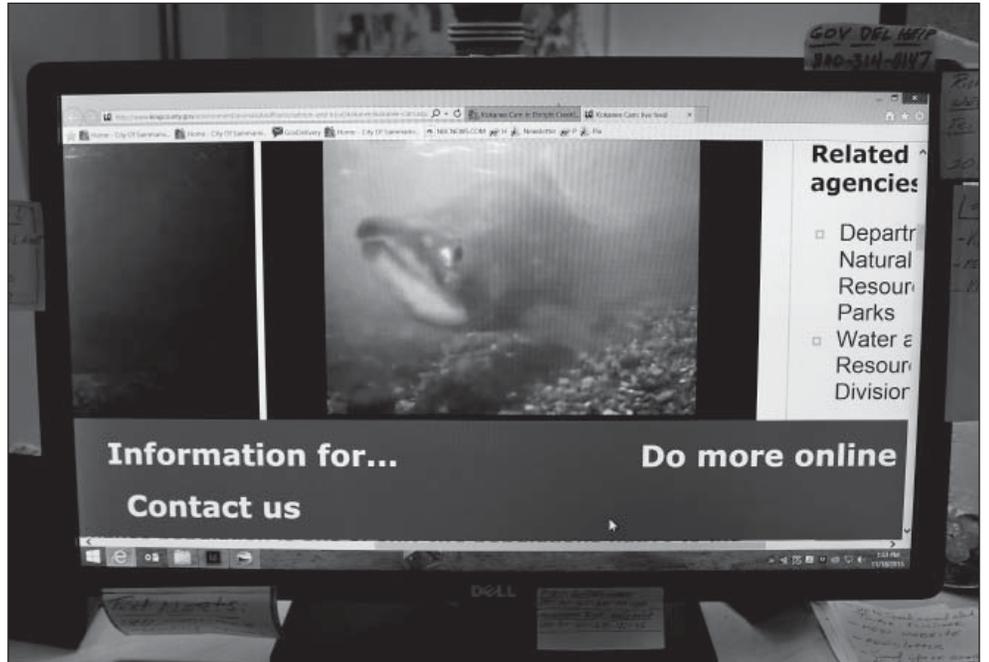
"We're very excited to see January 1 approaching fast," City Manager Ben Yazici said. "Our new residents voted overwhelmingly in favor of joining Sammamish, and we're delighted to have them."

The results of the April 28 election showed that approximately 86 percent of the participating annexation-area residents voted in favor.

"Since that result came in, we've been working hard to jump through all the process hoops," Yazici said. "But we've also spent time trying to understand what our new residents need and want."

To that end, the city formed a Transition Committee made up of representatives from the various homeowner

See ANNEXATION, pg. 4



Live TV: Watch the Ebright Creek Kokanee from your desk.

Kokanee Cam in Ebright Creek!

The Kokanee Work Group (KWG) has spent years rebuilding the salmon population in Lake Sammamish, and based on the live, underwater pictures from Ebright Creek, their hard work appears to be paying off.

The Kokanee Cam, funded by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Urban Refuge Program, is capturing an encouraging number of the little red fish as they make their way up the creek. To take a look, just go to www.sammamish.us.

The Kokanee spend their entire

lives in Lake Sammamish. Ebright Creek is just one of three streams with significant numbers of Kokanee.

The KWG is made up of representatives from Sammamish and the other cities around the lake, as well as private citizens, the Snoqualmie Tribe, Trout Unlimited, Friends of Pine Lake and several other entities.

"All the stakeholders in this effort should be proud," City Manager Ben Yazici said. "It's really inspiring to see our fish thriving on live TV."

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS

Page 2

\$4 MILLION GRANT

Story on page 3

TOYS FOR TOTS

Story on page 6

Welcome!

Christie Malchow and Tom Hornish will join the City Council on Jan. 5 after winning seats in the Nov. 3 election. Malchow (Position 2) will take the place of Councilmember Nancy Whitten, who decided not to seek reelection. Malchow bested Mark Cross for the vacated seat. Hornish (Position 6) successfully challenged incumbent Tom Vance.

“We look forward to working with Christie and Tom,” City Manager Ben Yazici said. “I know the community deeply appreciates their willingness to make such a big commitment to public service.”



Christie Malchow



Tom Hornish

Thank you!

Councilmember Nancy Whitten and Mayor Tom Vance will leave their seats at the end of 2015, but City Manager Ben Yazici says their legacy of hard work and commitment to the community will endure for years to come.

“Nancy joined the Council in 2004 and Tom came aboard in 2012,” Yazici said. “Throughout their terms of service they worked for what they believed in, put in long and selfless amounts of time, and always kept the interests of our residents front and center. We are going to miss their talent, determination and hard work.”



Nancy Whitten



Tom Vance

Openings on city boards and commissions

The City of Sammamish City Council is actively seeking interested residents to fill positions on the Arts Commission, Planning Commission, Parks & Recreation Commission and the Beaver Lake Management District Board.

For more information, please go to www.sammamish.us and click on the Boards and Commissions tab. The deadline for applications is Dec. 31

If you would like to be considered for a commission or board, please submit a letter of interest, a resume outlining your relevant experience, and a completed questionnaire to City Clerk Melonie Anderson at manderson@sammamish.us.

City receives \$4 million state grant for S.E. 4th Street

FUNDS WILL PAY FOR INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS IN TOWN CENTER AREA

Southeast Fourth Street is a lightly traveled, two-lane country road right now, but as the Town Center Plan comes to life over the next few years, it's going to get a lot busier.

Fortunately, the state Transportation Improvement Board reacted favorably to the city's application for grant money and set aside \$4 million for construction of curb, gutter, sidewalk and bike lane improvements along the east-west corridor. Six tenths of a mile in length, the finished roadway will also feature a pair of roundabouts.



Southeast Fourth Street, looking east toward 228th Avenue Southeast.

"This should reassure those who said our grant assumptions in the six-year Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) were too optimistic," City Manager Ben Yazici said. "Don't forget, we've also received \$5 million

in outside money for improvements to Issaquah-Fall City Road, and we're just getting started."

Yazici is confident the city will also qualify for additional grants for Issaquah-Fall City Road and Issaquah-Pine Lake Road. The city's six-year TIP assumes \$20 million in grants and outside money will come the city's way.

Be prepared! A winter storm could be on its way

Granted, it's been a while since Sammamish suffered through a major winter snow storm, but you shouldn't let your guard down. The only thing worse than being buried in snow is to be buried without a plan!

As a starting point, visit the city website (www.sammamish.us) and enter "winter" into the search box in the upper, right-hand corner of the home page.

Among other things, the city's "winter preparedness" page includes a long list of tips, a map of city roads showing snow clearance priorities, and a compendium of useful websites. It also features a Q&A section that should address many of your inquiries. The

executive summary goes something like this:

- Before driving home, identify the best snow route, paying special attention to finding the road with the fewest hills.
- Keep your gas tank at least three-quarters full at all times.
- Store blankets, a bag of sand or cat litter, a shovel, a window scraper, warm clothes and flares in the trunk of your car.



City snowplows are ready to go into action.

and flares in the trunk of your car.

- Drive only if necessary.
- Use public transit whenever possible.
- Make sure you have the right size snow chains in your car, and learn how to put them on.
- If you have to abandon your vehicle, pull as far off the road as possible.

Protect yourself against carbon monoxide

THE WASHINGTON POISON CENTER HAS SOME TIPS FOR THIS WINTER

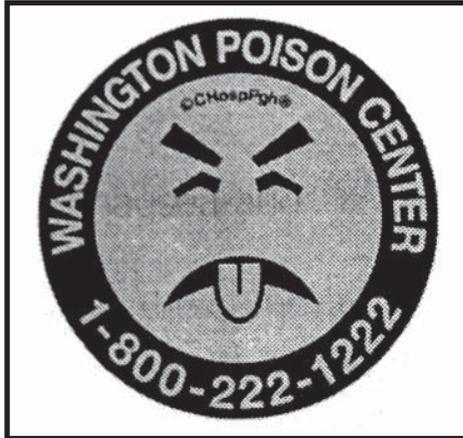
As people crank up their heaters for the winter, it's important to take appropriate steps to guard against the threat of carbon monoxide.

Here are some bullet points from the Washington Poison Center, an entity the city of Sammamish supports through its human services grant funding program:

- Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless gas produced by incomplete combustion of oil, gas, charcoal, wood and other fuels.
- Carbon monoxide poisoning can cause death.
- A faulty furnace or a blocked exhaust system are common sources

on carbon monoxide.

- Using propane or charcoal grills indoors, running cars inside closed garages, or using faulty fireplaces can be very dangerous.
- Be alert to possible CO exposure



if multiple people or pets in the same household become sick at the same time.

- If you think there's a problem, remove every person from the building.
- If someone is unconscious, call 911 and open windows and doors.
- To protect yourself, make sure you have working CO detectors outside of every sleeping area in your household.
- Have your heating system, chimney, fireplace and flues professionally inspected annually.

For more information on carbon monoxide, contact the Washington Poison Center at www.wapc.org or

ANNEXATION, cont. from pg. 1

associations in the annexation area. Meeting once a month since August, the committee has heard presentations from city department heads and passed along its concerns and priorities.

"The committee was intended to be a two-way communication channel between the city and our new residents," Yazici said. "One of the things we've learned is that the concerns of our new residents are very similar to the concerns of our existing residents. They worry about traffic, speeding, public safety and so on."

The committee's last scheduled meeting is at City Hall on Wednesday, Dec. 9, at 6:30 p.m.

Please note:

Residents in the annexation area do NOT need to take any action regarding their address. Since your zip code and street address will remain the same, the mail will arrive just as it always has.

Please note also:

The legally required census of the annexation area will begin on Dec. 19 or shortly thereafter. If you would prefer not to provide information through contact at your front door, please contact Census Director Glenn MacGilvra at 425-533-5432 to make other arrangements.



Police Chief Nathan Elledge meets with the annexation Transition Committee.

Community and Aquatic Center photo tour

A recent tour of the city's new Community and Aquatic Center revealed a facility that is clearly in the finishing stages of construction.

Although City Manager Ben Yazici told the City Council on Nov. 17 that the project is a few weeks behind schedule (an April opening is now expected), the almost-finished spaces are enough to stir anybody's swimming, spinning, socializing, lifting, running, meeting, basketball-playing, and "drop-my-kids-in-the-child-care-area-and-start-exercising" reflexes.

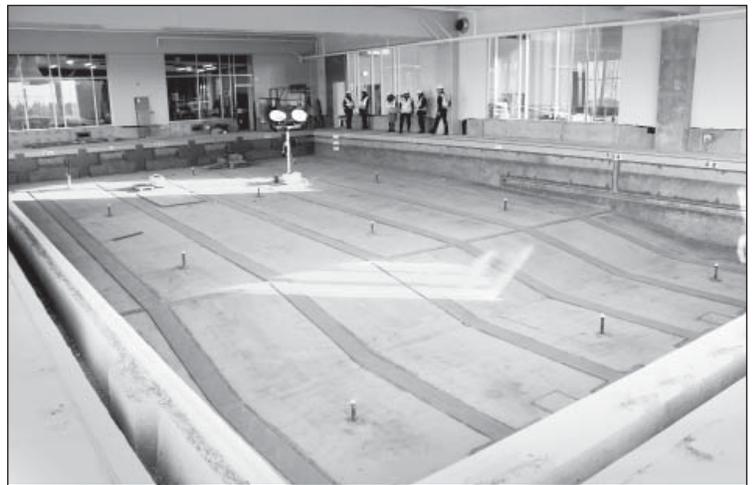
"It's going to be a terrific gathering place for our community," Yazici said. "It's centrally located, will provide a spectrum of activities for residents of all ages, and will give us all the opportunity to see friends and get to know people we haven't met before."



One of two gymnasiums in the new facility.



An exercise room awaits the installation of equipment.



Just add water and the community has a lap pool.



One of the child-care spaces in the facility.



(From left) Parks Commissioner Hank Klein, Councilmember Bob Keller, Parks Commission Alternate Sheila Sappington, Parks Commissioner Mary Doerrer, and city staffers Janie Jackson and Sevda Baran.

Toys for Tots donation deadline

THIS THURSDAY, DEC. 10, IS YOUR LAST CHANCE!!!

The Toys for Tots barrel sits in the City Hall entryway, just outside the police station door, and it's calling your name!

And, just as it has for the past ten years, it's asking you to bring a new, unwrapped present for a child who may not have a great Christmas without your help. But please keep in mind that you don't have much time.

Det. Amy Jarboe has to wrap up the donation process at the end of the business day on Thursday, Dec. 10, so she can hand off the Sammamish donations to the U. S. Marine Corps, the organization that sponsors the Toys for Tots program.

"We've had big hauls for the ten years that I've been helping with this holiday season effort," Jarboe said. "I'm sure we'll see the same generosity from Sammamish residents that we've seen in years past."

Sammamish City Hall and the police station are located at 801 228th Ave. S.E., right across from Skyline High School.



The Sammamish Arts Commission presents A Repertory Collective Project: A Christmas Survival Guide

Written by James Hindman and Ray Roderick, music by John Glaudin

It's Free! But tickets are required for admission

Dec. 18 and 19, 7-9 p.m., at Pine Lake Covenant Church
(Tickets available through ChristmasSurvivalGuidePineLake.BrownPaperTickets.com)

For more information, call 425-395-6641 or send an email to Steve@SDWright.net.

Maintain your drain!

Do you have a storm drain near your property? You probably do since there are more than 5,000 storm drains scattered around the city of Sammamish. Please know that you can help your community by doing the following:

- Check storm drain grates frequently to make sure they are free of leaves and other debris.
- Do NOT remove the grate from the storm drain opening. This is dangerous and doesn't unclog the system.
- Rake leaves away from storm drains near your house or business and please don't blow your leaves into the street.
- Dispose of leaves in your yard waste container or compost bin.



CITY CALENDAR

DECEMBER

Tuesday, Dec. 1

-City Council Office Hour,
5-6 p.m.

-City Council Meeting,
6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 3

-Planning Commission Meeting,
6:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 4

-Very Merry Sammamish,
5:30-8 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 5

-Volunteer at Ebright Creek Park
9 a.m. to noon

Tuesday, Dec. 8

-City Council Special Mtg,
6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 9

-Transportation Comm Mtg, 10 a.m.
-Klahanie Transition Comm Mtg,
6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 12

-Volunteer at Lower Commons Park,
10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 15

-City Council Meeting,
6:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 18

-Youth Board Meeting,
Boys and Girls Club
6 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 18, and Saturday, Dec. 19

-A Christmas Survival Guide
Pine Lake Covenant Church
7-9 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 25

-Christmas Day
City offices closed

JANUARY

Friday, Jan. 1

-New Years Day
City offices closed

Tuesday, Jan. 5

-City Council Meeting
6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 6

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

Tuesday, Jan. 12

-City Council Meeting,
6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 14

-Planning Commission Mtg,
6:30 p.m.

Jan. 14, 15, 16

-City Council Retreat
Location TBA

Monday, Jan. 18

-Martin Luther King Day
City offices closed

Tuesday, Jan. 19

-City Council Meeting
6:30 p.m.
-Don Fels Art Exhibit
open in City Hall

Wednesday, Jan. 20

-Youth Board Meeting,
6 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 21

-Planning Commission Mtg,
6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 28

-Don Fels Art Exhibit Reception
6 p.m.
-Planning Commission Mtg,
6:30 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE:

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

Volunteer Opportunity on Saturday, Dec. 12

Help out with the ongoing restoration efforts at the Lower Commons wetland, the headwaters of Ebright Creek. Volunteers will help enhance wetland habitat by planting and mulching native trees and shrubs, and removing invasive plants. This project is perfect for groups of all ages and students looking to complete community service hours for school.

Sign up on our volunteer page: www.sammamish.us/volunteer.



801 - 228th Avenue SE
Sammamish, WA 98075

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
REDMOND, WA
PERMIT NO.312

ECRWSS

POSTAL CUSTOMER

SAMMAMISH CITY COUNCIL



Tom Vance
Mayor



Kathy Huckabay
Deputy Mayor



Don Gerend
Councilmember



Bob Keller
Councilmember



Tom Odell
Councilmember



Ramiro Valderrama
Councilmember



Nancy Whitten
Councilmember

Master Chorus Eastside



Presents: A Choral Christmas Carol

Sunday, Dec. 13, 3 p.m., at Pine Lake Covenant Church

Tickets online: Brown Paper Tickets

Or call: 425-392-8446

CITY OF SAMMAMISH OFFICES

801 228th Ave. SE, Sammamish, WA 98075
Phone: 425-295-0500 • Fax: 425-295-0600

www.sammamish.us

Tom Vance, Mayor

tvance@sammamish.us

Kathy Huckabay, Deputy Mayor

khuckabay@sammamish.us

Don Gerend, Councilmember

dgerend@sammamish.us

Bob Keller, Councilmember

bkeller@sammamish.us

Tom Odell, Councilmember

todell@sammamish.us

Ramiro Valderrama

rvalderrama@sammamish.us

Nancy Whitten, Councilmember

nwhitten@sammamish.us

Ben Yazici

City Manager

Lyman Howard

Deputy City Manager

Jessi Bon

Parks & Rec Director

Beth Goldberg

Admin Services Director

Joe Guinasso

Finance Director

Jeff Thomas

Community Dev Director

Melonie Anderson

City Clerk

Nathan Elledge

Police Chief

Greg Tryon

Fire Chief

Michael Kenyon

City Attorney

Newsletter suggestions or concerns?

Contact Communications Mgr Tim Larson

425-295-0555, tlarson@sammamish.us