



COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Summer Fun ideas inside!

ISSUE 59 CITY OF SUMNER NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2009

Sumner Offers Special Memorial Day Experience



Volunteers place flags at the Sumner City Cemetery for Memorial Day.

Do you know how Memorial Day started? According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, it officially began as Decoration Day, three years after the Civil War ended in 1868. They think that May 30 was chosen because flowers would be blooming and available across the country. Over time, Decoration Day became Memorial Day to remember all who have died in service to our country.

Has Memorial Day lost its true meaning to “summer kick-offs” that involve sales, picnics and camping? Not in Sumner. Since 1943, Sumner’s VFW Post 3070 has been placing flags at the Sumner City Cemetery. Over the years, they’ve been joined by the Boy Scouts and other citizens who want to help.

The tradition continues again this year. On Thursday, May 21, once again they will be placing flags on any grave

marked as a veteran. If you know of other veterans at rest at the Sumner Cemetery without the cross on their headstone, you can also get a flag from the Cemetery office and place it yourself.

Then, on Memorial Day, Monday, May 25, Sumner’s service will begin at the cemetery at 10 am.

Mark your calendar for these events, whether you help place flags or attend the ceremony or both. Or, simply take 15 minutes to stop by the Sumner City Cemetery on the weekend to pay tribute to all those who served our country. This cemetery is the resting place for veterans who have served in the Civil War and all the others up to the present.

These may sound like simple things to do, but they carry great importance for helping everyone reconnect with the reason Memorial Day started 141 years ago.

QUESTION: What Do These Sumner Buildings Have in Common?



Answer on page 2

Pairing with Prosser Brings Wine, Fun to Sumner

Why do you visit a city? Often, you just need a reason, right? Sumner and Prosser are pairing up to give their residents (and neighbors) reasons to visit each other.

Prosser is a lot like Sumner: it’s a small, active community with a cute, bustling downtown. Sumner is 35 miles from Seattle, and Prosser is 35 miles from the Tri-Cities. Sumner is the Rhubarb Pie Capital of the World, and Prosser is the birthplace of the Washington wine industry. While Prosser has over 20 wineries, Sumner has two wine walks.

That is why the relationship got dubbed a “pairing.” To get it started, Prosser’s mayor and Chamber president came to Sumner’s Sweetheart Wine Walk last winter along with Prosser’s Airfield Estates Winery. The winery said it was the best event they’d ever attended, and the visitors fell in love with Sumner. None of them had ever been here before.

On July 18, Sumner will be at Prosser’s popular Art Walk & Wine Gala, inviting Eastern Washington residents to come here. The event even features Sumner artist Robert Tandeki.

This is all a lot of fun, but it’s also economically important. A visitor who stays overnight spends on average \$317 in addition to their lodging costs while day-trippers average \$142. Prosser and Sumner are the perfect distances from each other for weekend stays, hopefully giving each city’s hotels, restaurants and shops a good boost.

So, welcome Prosser when they come here and maybe consider spending your own weekend exploring Prosser!

Learn more about Prosser at www.prosserchamber.org.



Thanks, in part, to the Prosser pairing, the last wine walk welcomed record numbers of guests to eat, shop and discover Sumner.

The pairing will continue to expand Sumner’s horizons to eastern Washington and continue to encourage in-state tourism to keep our economy strong.

Construction and Growth Are Still Underway in Sumner

As we enter the “construction season,” it is not as quiet as you might think in Sumner. A number of projects are in the works:

Trail Construction: the Shops Loop Trail will be constructed this summer. This trail forms a loop past the City shops, across the bridges to the north and south, and along the east side of the White River. This project is being funded with trail impact fees that were collected over the past six years and is one more step in connecting Sumner’s trail system.

Senior Apartments Proposed: the City received a conditional use permit application for 18 senior/retirement apartments on Parker Road.

Oil Can Henry’s Coming? The City received a design review application for an Oil Can Henry’s at the corner of Valley Avenue and Washington Street behind the Fred Meyer store.

Honey Bucket Home? The Honey Bucket Company is proposing a Honey Bucket storage facility with two 12x24 modular office buildings with a breezeway connection between the two offices. The proposal includes associated parking and landscaping on 132nd Ave E. across from Tarp World.

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ANSWER: They No Longer Exist!
Want to make sure none of Sumner's existing buildings share the same fate? Join the new Historic Preservation Commission

Did you know that the tudor-style movie theater shown in the top picture was torn down for drive-through banking lanes? The house was on the northeast corner of Valley and Main, and the bottom picture shows the old high school. Many citizens wish buildings such as these still existed.

There's hope! No one can go back and return the historic buildings that Sumner has lost, but you can help save those that remain. Sumner now has a Historic Preservation Ordinance and a Historic Preservation Commission. Consider getting involved, whether you're interested in history, architecture or the environment. (Saving a building conserves a lot more valuable resources than recycling a pop can!)

Here's how it works. If you own a Sumner building that is more than 50 years old and carries some sort of historic or architectural significance, you may qualify for special tax credits. You would fill out an application that goes to the Historic Preservation Commission. They review your building and either place you on the register or not. By being on the register, you qualify for special tax incentives and renovation assistance as long as you keep the building within its historic character. If you'd like to change its appearance significantly, you can still do that, but you'd likely drop off the register and no longer qualify for tax breaks.

This new program will help those who want to preserve Sumner without affecting anyone who does not want to participate. It will not affect any property unless the owner applies for it.


But wait, there's more! Because this program is new, we need volunteers to serve as commissioners. Although this means about one meeting a month, it's an easy way to make sure no other historic buildings become just a photograph and a memory.

To get an application to join the Historic Preservation Commission, go to www.ci.sumner.wa.us.

5 ways you can help preserve Sumner

1. Apply to be on the Historic Preservation Commission.
2. Consider putting your house or building on the registry.
3. Maintain the integrity of your building when you renovate.
4. Support Sumner Downtown Association, which focuses on preserving Downtown by keeping it vibrant and useful.
5. Shop and eat downtown to keep businesses healthy.

City of Sumner
 1104 Maple Street,
 Sumner, WA 98390
 253-863-8300
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Finance/utilities 863-8300	John Galle 299-5644 Police Chief	
Golf course 863-8198	Bill Pugh 299-5701 Public Works Director	
Inspection line 299-5530		
Recreation 891-6500		
Permit Center 299-5530		
Police (non-emergency) 863-6384		
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MUNICIPAL COURT	EAST PIERCE FIRE & RESCUE	
Timothy A. Jenkins 863-7635 Judge, Court Offices	Main Number 863-1800	
Cathy Pashon, 299-5621 Court Administrator	Jerry Thorson 863-5451 Fire Chief	

Farming Still an Option in Summer

Sumner is starting to bring back its old designation as the Rhubarb Pie Capital of the World (see insert). Recipes like the one below are part of this great farming heritage. So, on a hot summer day, give it a try and taste Sumner's past. If you'd like to do more, get your own hands dirty raising crops. The Sumner Community Garden still has spaces available. Go online for a form. [www.ci.sumner.wa.us /Living/Garden.htm](http://www.ci.sumner.wa.us/Living/Garden.htm)



RHUBARB SHERBERT

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 2 cups unsweetened strained rhubarb | 2 tbs. lemon juice |
| 1 envelope gelatin | 1/4 cup powdered sugar |
| 1/2 cup cold water | 2 egg whites |
| | 1 cup sugar |

Soak gelatin in cold water. Heat rhubarb, add sugar and stir until dissolved. Add gelatin to hot rhubarb sauce; add lemon juice and stir to dissolve gelatin. Chill until it begins to thicken. Beat egg whites until stiff and add powdered sugar. Beat gelatin mixture and fold the two mixtures together. Freeze, stirring at 20-minute intervals, until firm. From the Washington Rhubarb Growers Association.



Coffee with the Mayor!
 May 30, at 9:30 am

Come to City Hall and chat with Mayor Enslow about what's on your mind.

Then, at 10:30 am, talk about the possibility of a future YMCA in Sumner!



COUNCIL COLUMN

Growth is a must, and we must plan for it. Some say let's go back to the good old days, but most of those weren't too nice by today's standards. We have a past, present and future. All three are important, not just the past. Growth will happen, whether we like it or not, and it will only be bad if we don't plan for it.

My hat is off to the city staff who have helped us with great planning. Revenues are down now, and our staff are doing more with less. Yet, they, plus our Mayor and Council, make sure we have clean water, good public safety, sidewalks, trails and a great downtown. This is a partnership among all of us—including you.

What made the old days "good" were the citizens who made things happen. When George Ryan wanted trains to stop in Sumner, he built the depot. If you want a future full of "good old days" to come, you have to help make it happen.

As a councilmember, I need your input on the problems we're facing: future water sources, parking, traffic control, flooding, funding for streets, sidewalks, and trails. The easy chair at home is handy, but an occasional trip to the Council meeting also helps. Look at the information the City gives you. If you don't understand, ask questions. But, don't just sit back and dream about the past.

This participation includes the right to vote. We should maintain the right to vote at a poll in our hometown. The State recognized me for being an active voter for 60 years, and let me tell you, it's one of the best honors I've received. Please vote and plan and help us create a great future together.

God Bless America, Leroy Goff
lgoff@ci.sumner.wa.us

CITY COUNCIL ACTION FEBRUARY - APRIL 2009

Authorized Mayor to execute a contract with Juhl Development for Riverside Trail Phase II Adopted Ordinance 2284 amending Sumner Municipal Code to reflect adoption of a biennial budget and delete the Cumulative Reserve Fund Authorized Mayor to execute an agreement with ABAM for redesign of Stewart Road Corridor Improvements Adopted Ordinance 2285 increasing the penalty fees on delinquent water utility bills Adopted Resolution 1256 renaming John Deere Lane to 66th Street East Adopted Resolution 1257 authorizing the Mayor to enter into an interlocal agreement with Edgewood for Animal Control Services Adopted Resolution 1258 authorizing the Mayor to enter into an interlocal agreement with Bonney Lake for Animal Control Services	Approved Resolution 1259, setting the public hearing date for vacation of portion of 145th Ave E Adopted Resolution 1260 authorizing the Mayor to enter into an interlocal agreement with Milton for Animal Control Services Confirmed mayoral reappointments of Eugene Hammermaster to Civil Service Commission, David Bisom to Design Commission, Jim Woolery and Larry Johns to the Parks Board and Tom Powers to the Planning Commission. Confirmed mayoral appointment of Melony Kirkish to the Design Commission Adopted Resolution 1261 expressing City Council support for dredging critical portions of the Puyallup and White Rivers Authorized mayor to execute a purchase and sale agreement with SPII, Inc. for a portion of the Shop Loop Trail	Approved firework stand permit applications Authorized mayor to execute a contract with RP & Company for North Sumner Pump Station Adopted Ordinance 2287 establishing Stay Out of Areas of Racing (SOAR) Adopted Ordinance 2288 updating criminal codes Confirmed Mayoral reappointments of Jan Sanford, Donna Hardtke and appointment of Judy Kimball to the Arts Commission Authorized the Mayor to execute a Purchase and Sale Agreement with SPII, LLC Adopted Ordinance 2289 vacating a portion of 145th Ave E Adopted Resolution 1263 establishing 2009 Sidewalk Improvement Program Authorized City Administrator to dispose of existing golf course clubhouse and seek bids for a modular structure
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SUMNER ARTS COMMISSION presents

Music Off Main 2009



July 3 Pat Moss & New Frontier
 Legendary blues and rock from the '60s and '70s

July 10 Kellee Bradley
 Acclaimed vocalist and songwriter

July 17 The Diamond Experience
 Tribute to the music of Neil Diamond

July 24 Show Brazil
 Versatility and quality of Brazilian Music!

July 31 Two Scoops Combo
 Rollicking boogie-woogie humor and heart-felt blues

Free concerts at 6:30 pm
Heritage Park



Police Use Grants to Get Much Needed Funding

What do you do when revenue has fallen off significantly but you want to provide the same service? The Sumner Police are using grants as part of that answer!

In 2009, the department is applying for a variety of grants to fund important public safety projects while relieving some of the strain on the City's budget. Here's what they're trying for so far:

\$32,835 from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant would be used to both purchase improved technology and

support community oriented policing projects.

\$321,401 from COPS, spread over three years to hire an officer for a position that was left vacant in 2008 due to the budget. Both this and the Byrne grant come from Federal economic stimulus money.

\$7,000 from X52 (Washington State Traffic Safety Commission) for enhanced regional patrols.

\$3,800 from a Traffic Safety Equipment Grant for patrol equipment.



Police use different ways, from bike to foot patrol, to keep Sumner safe. Grants help fund a lot of these initiatives.

Funding from the Washington Auto Theft Prevention Authority (WATPA) to fund a detective assigned to the regional auto theft task force.

\$25,000 from WATPA to buy a vehicle for the detective assigned to the patrol task force.

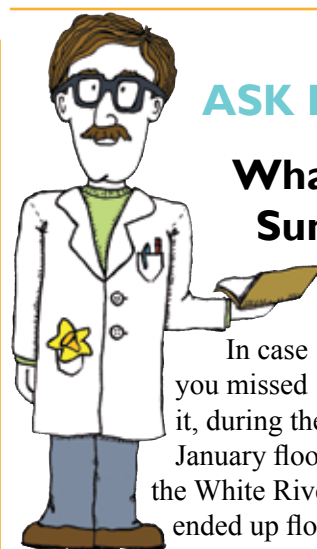
Sumner has already been approved to receive all of the funding above except the COPS and WATPA detective grant, which are still waiting for the final word.

Sumner Police often rank well because the citizens are involved in public safety. See the Summer Fun insert for how you can improve your own neighborhood's safety.

Cemetery Helps Plan for Future

Memorial Day is a good time to remember all our loved ones who have passed away, and look toward our own futures. Sumner City Cemetery offers many choices for final resting places, including estate plots, raised marker plots, urn garden plots, granite niche wall, glass front niches, and granite markers.

Choosing Sumner's cemetery means being part of events such as Memorial Day and the annual option to purchase wreaths during the holidays. If you would like more information, visit Darlene in the Cemetery's office, call 253-299-5510 or visit the website at www.ci.sumner.wa.us/Government/Cemetery.htm.



ASK DR. SUMNER:

What is going on with the clubhouse at Sumner Meadows Golf Links?

In case you missed it, during the January floods, the White River ended up flowing through the golf course, including the clubhouse.

There are a number of things happening to help the course recover. First, Billy Casper Golf, who operates the course, got the course itself back into shape. As you play your 18 holes, you will see evidence of repair work being done, but

the course is ready for play. In fact, junior golf camps are open for registration, and there are many chances for golfers of all ages and abilities to give it a try.

Second, the City of Sumner, who owns the course, is going through the long process to get recovery money from FEMA. To put this into perspective, time-wise, FEMA money is just coming through this year to raise homes that were damaged in the November 2006 flood.

Third, the clubhouse could

not be saved. On April 20, the City Council gave the City Administrator the authority to dispose of the damaged clubhouse and begin getting bids for a modular replacement.

Although a city bid process is probably slower than many golfers would like, it is underway and moving along.

To play at Sumner Meadows Golf Links, go to www.golfsumnermeadows.com or call 253-863-8198.

Contact Dr. Sumner at DrSumner@ci.sumner.wa.us.

Congratulations to Sumner Meadows! The April edition of *Cascade Golfer* highlighted the course, calling it "one of the most enjoyable rounds you can find for under \$30."

Construction continued from page 1

Quality Stamping to Expand: Quality Stamping and Machining, Inc. is planning on an 8,000-square-foot warehouse with associated parking and landscaping on 137th Ave E. Their expansion a couple of years ago was funded in part with Industrial Revenue Bonds issued by the Economic Development Corporation of Pierce County. It is one of the outstanding examples of manufacturing and job-creation in Sumner.

Development on West Valley Highway: Plans are underway for a 1,440-square-foot portable building with associated parking and landscaping on West Valley Highway, north of 24th Street.

Winco Coming: Winco continues to work through Sumner's permitting process to build a grocery store just south of Highway 410 off 166th Avenue E. Construction is scheduled to start this summer with an open date next year.

Honda Back to Construction: Work has resumed on converting the old Sumner Tractor building into a new Honda dealership.

IS YOUR BEAGLE LEGAL?



Don't let your dog be an outlaw. For as little as \$14 per year, you can tell him that you care enough to make your relationship legal.

Get a pet license today!



www.299pets.org

Shelter: 253-841-5595
 Licenses: 253-299-PETS

Annual Cycle of Chip-Seal Preserves Roads



Summer means it's time to keep the city's roads in shape. The rotation for chip-sealing continues with these streets this year.

There isn't a set schedule because many factors--such as weather--affect when work can be done. But, here is where it will be done!



New Sidewalks Connect Summer

In addition to road work, you'll also see sidewalks getting built. Some sidewalks are being built through a grant from Safe Routes to Schools to finish the walking routes to Maple Lawn and Sumner Middle School.

Other sidewalks are going in to fill in gaps or replace damaged sidewalks at the homeowners' request with the City splitting the cost with homeowners. If you think your property qualifies, and you want to look into applying this year, visit www.ci.sumner.wa.us.



Welcome, Chief Thorson!

East Pierce Fire and Rescue has a new chief. Chief Jerry Thorson came on board this spring to head up the fire district that serves Sumner.

Chief Thorson (shown waving, left) jumped right in, introducing himself to the Sumner City Council and riding through the Daffodil Parade in Sumner's antique Kenworth fire truck.

Come on in!

INSIDE:

How to save Sumner's historic buildings

Getting back to the heart of Memorial Day

"Pairing" with Prosser brings new visitors

Police use grants to help relieve budget strain

PLUS

Summer Fun ideas are inserted!

GET THE MONTHLY CONNECTION

Keep updated monthly with the e-newsletter. Sign up on the City's website at www.ci.sumner.wa.us.

"The summer night is like a perfection of thought." - Wallace Stevens (1879 - 1955)

SUMNER CITY COUNCIL



Steve Allsop



Curt Brown



Leroy Goff



Ed Hannus



Cindi Hochstatter



Randy Hynek



Matt Richardson

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SAFETY SALLY SAYS: Weather Radios Provide Valuable Warning

NOAA Weather Radios broadcast continuous weather information as well as official warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information. While the weather information may be handy for figuring out what to wear, the alert function makes it your best warning of such disasters as floods and lahars.



The broadcasts cannot be heard on a simple AM/FM radio receiver. You can buy NOAA radio receivers at many retail

outlets, including electronics, department, sporting goods, and marine stores as well as online.

FEATURES

Prices can vary from \$20 to \$200. NOAA cannot recommend one brand of receiver over another, but they suggest that you look for receivers that carry the Public Alert logo. This logo means that radio meets certain technical standards and comes with many (if not all) of the features recommended.

- **Warning or tone alarm** to alert you even if you have the audio turned off. This is especially important for nighttime warnings.

- **SAME** (Specific Area Message Encoding) programs your radio to activate the alarm only for your area.

- **Event selection** lets you choose which warnings you want to receive from the Emergency Alert System.

- **External antenna jack** for enhanced reliable reception. You may need this since Sumner's valley is notorious for difficulties in getting reception.

- **Ability to receive the weekly and monthly tests.**

- **Battery backup**

SETTING UP

- Program the frequency and SAME code according to the directions.

- For the frequency, Sumner is served by two NOAA Weather Radio stations: Seattle at 162.55 MHz and Olympia at 162.475 MHz.

- The SAME code for Pierce County is 053053.

- Put the radio on a window sill where you're most likely to hear it and facing the direction of the weather radio transmitter chosen (north for Seattle's frequency, south for Olympia's).

- If your reception is poor, you may need an external antenna.

- There is a weekly test on Wednesdays between 11 am and 2 pm. If you don't hear it, you may need to reposition your radio or add the external antenna.

- External alarm jacks are available for such accessories as a strobe light and pillow shaker for the hearing and/or sight impaired.

For more information, go to the City's website at www.ci.sumner.wa.us. Click on Public Safety and Safety Sally for links to NOAA and other useful sites.



A variety of models for weather radios are available.