



COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Free Summer Concerts in the Park

Mark your calendar now! The Sumner Promotions Association and the City of Sumner, along with several local businesses, are sponsoring the "Summer Concerts in the Park" series. This summer bring your entire family down to Reuben Knoblauch Heritage Park to enjoy a concert. Every concert will be held from 6 p.m. -7 p.m., an ideal time to load up the family, grab a blanket, and have a picnic dinner in the park!



REUBEN KNOBLAUCH HERITAGE PARK
Cherry Ave. & Kincaid Ave.
Downtown Sumner

CONCERT SCHEDULE

Fridays, 6 - 7 p.m.

- July 16Portland Taiko Ensemble
- July 23Tingstand & Rumbel
- July 30Men of Worth
- August 13Freeway Philharmonic
- August 20Joe Ferrante
- August 27Sumner Jazz Band

New Ladder Truck for Fire Department

The Sumner Fire Department this spring will be putting a new fire truck into service. The new vehicle is a ladder truck with 110 feet of aerial apparatus and pumps capable of pumping up to 1,750 gallons a minute. The truck can be used for tall structures in Sumner, such as the high school's Performing Arts Center, churches and industrial buildings. The ladder can extend 110 feet vertically, horizontally, or even minus five degrees for reaching out and below a structure such as a bridge.

The \$500,000 vehicle replaces the Fire Department's old Seagrave ladder truck which has been in service more than 30 years. The new truck was driven from the factory in Pennsylvania in mid-March to a Portland firm where finish work is being completed. The City will place it in service when all work is completed.

Asst. Chief Tom Poste and Capt. Pat Risley traveled to the factory in early March where they conducted two days of tests to ensure the vehicle and equipment complied with bid specifications and performed according to standards.



Sumner fire personnel traveled to the LTI Inc. factory in Ephrata, Pennsylvania to inspect the new fire vehicle.

See Inside

- Mayor's Message page 2
- New Neighborhood Citedpage 3
- Industrial Area Developingpage 4
- Spring Clean-up page 6
- New Traffic Lightpage 7
- Students Learn in Courtpage 8



Details page 5

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Spring is busting out all over and City Hall is an exceedingly busy place. On April 17 the 66th Annual Daffodil Parade will again come down Main Street. Our own Jeana Little, Sumner High School's Daffodil Princess, was chosen Daffodil Queen. She is doing us proud. This parade is so beautiful and it's wonderful to see the tradition continue. When I was young my friends and I marched in the parade and now our grandchildren are taking part in it. If you are new to Sumner, be sure to come downtown by 3 p.m. on Parade Day. You won't be disappointed, I promise.



Barbara Skinner

This will again be a busy year for street work. The 142nd Avenue East project continues north of town, our Main Street upgrade is gearing up, and Traffic Avenue will be designed for construction next year. We just received word that we have received \$1.6 million from the state to help at Traffic Avenue. In addition, we hope to rebuild Zehnder Street this year and we'll be busy with the usual maintenance on our city streets.

Another project, the long-awaited skateboard park at the Daffodil Sports Complex, will be built this summer. It will be a great facility for anyone brave enough to try skateboarding and there will be space for observers to be entertained by and learn about this fairly new sport. Skateboarders are extraordinary athletes and it will be very exciting to see them demonstrating their moves.

Finally, getting down to basics, we have been studying the need for public restrooms in downtown Sumner. We want our visitors to be comfortable and yet we aren't providing this basic facility. Since Sound Transit is also considering building a restroom for their personnel at the new train station it makes sense for Sumner and Sound Transit to examine this issue together and see if we can find a joint solution for our common problem.

This is a brief review of what is at the top of our agenda for this spring and summer. Of course there are some topics I haven't even mentioned. As always, if you have any questions or comments about what's happening in Sumner, please call me at (253) 891-3318.

— Mayor Skinner

City Preparing For 'Y2K' Computer Bug

The City has been preparing to address the Y2K issue by conducting an inventory of existing computers and equipment to determine if they will be affected by the "Y2K Bug." That term refers to the problems that could arise on January 1, 2000 when computers (including computer chips) fail to understand that 00 means the year 2000 and not 1900. When early computers and software were made, the years were abbreviated by the last 2 digits in order to save space in the programs.

All parts of the City, from police to the Public Works Department have been working to determine what effect the Y2K problem will have on equipment and services. Contingency plans for the possible loss of electricity and other externally provided services are also being made. The next City newsletter will include information to help individuals and businesses prepare for Y2K. In the meantime, numerous sites on the world wide web are available as shown below:

- ◆ Cassandra Project: <http://www.cassandraproject.org>
- ◆ Emergency Response: <http://www.fema.gov>
- ◆ State of Washington: <http://www.wa.gov/dis/2000/y2000.htm>

As with all potential emergencies, the City advises residents to maintain sufficient water, food, and other resources to be self-sufficient for 72 hours. Whether the emergency is a Y2K-triggered power outage or an earthquake, everyone should be able to sustain their existence for 72 hours. Keep watching the Sumner Connection for additional information about preparing for Y2K.

Congratulations Sumner University graduates!

On February 3 and 10, local residents including several Sumner High School and Sumner Jr. High School students participated in Sumner University. "Students" attending classes this year chose from the topics of community policing, City finance, how to have your message heard by elected officials, current development, the Sumner Family Center, and the Endangered Species Act. Sumner University was held at the historical Dieringer School at 1808 East Valley Highway. The students and faculty were also given a personal tour of the refurbished school buildings.

The 1999 graduates of Sumner University are Mary Buldhaupt, Stewart Sutterlee, Jaysen Widner, Scott Groff, Judy Groff, Audra Wittenberg, Kim Barquest, Jason Heminger, Davey Bentler, David Singer, Leroy Goff, Brian Coate, Stuart Scheuerman, Joseph Schiessl and Taryn Capps.



CITY PHONE NUMBERS

MAYOR
Barbara Skinner891-3318

CITY COUNCIL (Voice mail)
Mike Connor891-3332
Kris Coppin891-3331
Dave Enslow891-3338
Mark Evers891-3330
Leroy Goff891-3335
Stuart Scheuerman . . .891-3334
Ron Scholz891-3336

CITY OFFICES
Administration/Finance .863-8300
.FAX 863-2850
Cemetery863-6345
Court863-7635
Fire (non-emergency) . . 863-5451
Golf Course863-8198
Parks & Recreation . . . 863-5365
Permit Center863-1230
Police (non-emergency) .863-6384
Senior Center863-2910
Utilities826-9400
Sewer Treatment Plant
Odor Hotline891-3294

POLICE/FIRE EMERGENCY
CALL 911

CITY OF SUMNER

1104 Maple St.
Sumner, WA 98390
253-863-8300
253-863-2850 FAX

MAYOR

Barbara Skinner

CITY COUNCIL

Mike Connor
Kris Coppin, Mayor Pro Tem
Dave Enslow
Mark Evers
Leroy Goff
Stuart Scheuerman
Ron Scholz

CITY STAFF

Michael Wilson	City Administrator
Steve Zamberlin	Asst. City Administrator
Wendy Shook	Court Administrator
Patricia Bosmans	City Attorney
Barbara Hughes	City Clerk
Audrey Young	City Treasurer
John Doan	Comm. Development Director
Jeff Flesner	Asst. Finance Director
John Fowler	Fire Chief
J. Ben Reisz	Police Chief
Bill Shoemaker	Public Works Director
Mary Smith	Senior Center Director

Sumner's New Daffodil Neighborhood Recognized by Vice President Al Gore

The Daffodil Neighborhood was given a Vision 2020 Award from the Puget Sound Regional Council last month. The neighborhood (the block bounded by Parker Road, Elm Street, Main Street and Valley Avenue) was recognized for its innovative mix of housing types, commercial development, employment, parks, a new church, and the Daffodil Valley Elementary School. The award was given to the City along with the other key partners in the development of the neighborhood.

At the award presentation held in Seattle, Vice-President Al Gore highlighted the collaboration between the City and School District in planning the new Daffodil Valley Elementary School. Of particular note was the use of the school at the center of the neighborhood. The new school will utilize street parking in order to reduce the amount of asphalt and impervious surface. The extra space will be used for play area for children. The interior of the school will also resemble the community with the main corridor being called "Main Street" and the classrooms being called neighborhoods. Symbolic of the partnership, the school, which is at the corner of Daffodil Street and Valley Avenue, was named to reflect the valley heritage.

Construction of Daffodil Valley Elementary will be completed later this spring. The school will open in September 1999. For information about the new school and the attendance area, contact the school principal, Scott Whitbeck, at 891-6325.

Daffodil Neighborhood Partners

- ▶ **Sumner School District** – for a school which is designed for students to walk to school and to de-emphasize parking and driving.
- ▶ **Boston Harbor Land Company** (Dave Prutzman) – for the innovative Sumner Farms Project which uses "neo-traditional" designs such as alleys, porches, and narrow streets to provide a more livable and affordable community.
- ▶ **Investco Property Development** (Mike Corliss) – for the mixed use development of Washington Court which provides a variety of housing and commercial opportunities, including eight live-work units where people can work and live in the same building.

Sumner's New Train Station Still On Track

Sumner's new train station that is to be located at Traffic Avenue and Maple Street is still on track to begin operations at the end of 1999. At this time, the design team is putting the finishing touches on the final station design which will be completed by mid-April.

The construction of the station is to begin early this summer and will be substantially completed by the end of 1999. In order to start train service by 2000, it may be necessary to phase the construction of all planned station improvements. The entire plan includes shelters and boarding platforms, parking lots, a transfer area for eight buses, landscaping, and a depot-like structure that will house the ticket vending machines. Public restrooms may be part of the design.

All of the structures at the station will simulate the architectural characteristics of the hops kilns that were in the valley at the turn of the century.

The Sumner station and the Tacoma Dome station are scheduled to be part of a mobile workshop conducted as part of the National American Planning Association conference being held in Seattle at the end of April. Planners from all over the U.S. will be on the tours and have the opportunity to see how the stations will look and function in different communities.

When the station opens in January 2000, there will only be two commuter trains with two passenger cars each. As more equipment rolls off the assembly line, more trains and cars will be added.

CITY STAFF APPOINTMENTS

The City of Sumner welcomes the following new employees:

- Stephen Noeske, City Engineer, Public Works
- Greg Schwagerl, Engineering Tech II, Public Works
- Joseph Schiessl, Associate Planner, Community Development

Industrial Area Rapidly Taking Shape

The City is rapidly becoming the home to many major industrial and commercial tenants. With almost 1,000 acres of industrial-zoned land, new businesses such as Brooks Sports, Maersk Shipping, and Costco call Sumner home.

Since 1994, the City has been working with property owners and businesses to build new roads and utility facilities. A major sewer line to provide service to the City's north-end (north of the White River) was completed two years ago. A two-million gallon water reservoir to provide increased fire-flow will be completed this spring. Construction on a road and bridge will be completed this summer, and work on the new freeway interchange is planned to start next fall. All of these projects are funded with a combination of fees on new utility users, local improvement districts, State Department of Transport money, and grants.

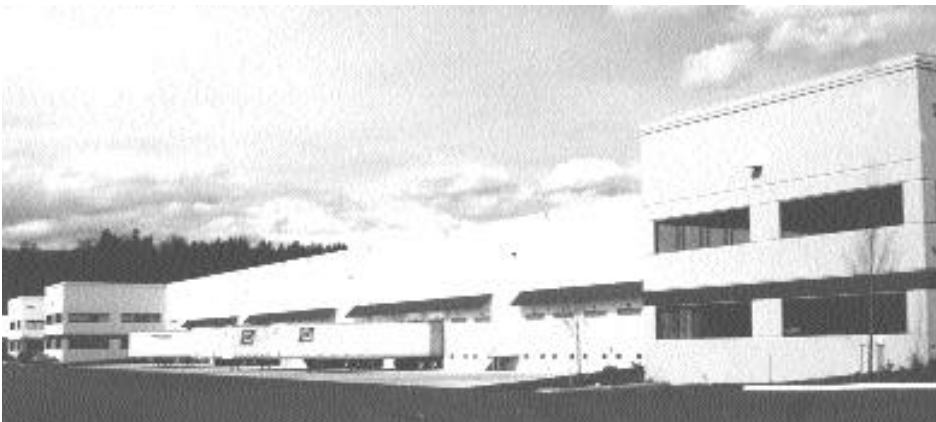


The new bridge across the Stuck River is nearing completion. The bridge connects Tacoma Avenue south of the river with an extension of 142nd Avenue, north of the river, which is currently being widened. The state plans to build a SR 167 freeway interchange at 24th Avenue.

Three major industrial developments have been approved and are under construction. The newest addition is a major regional distribution center for the Costco Company, one of the largest retailers in the nation. Costco will use this site to distribute products to the warehouse stores throughout the region. The first building will be a 175,000 square foot cold storage and freezer building. This building is presently under construction now and is planned to open in July. A 250,000 square-foot dry storage building is planned for construction within the next two years.

For over 30 years, the City has planned for development of this industrial area which is considered vital to Sumner's long-term plan and tax-base. Impacts of industrial development to the remainder of the community can be minimized through tight development standards, setbacks along the Stuck River, utility connection and facility changes by new users, and major road improvements.

For additional information about industrial land contact the Community Development Department at 891-3300, or the City of Sumner web site at www.ci.sumner.wa.us.



Post Trucking and Distribution is a new tenant in the Valley South Corporate Park at 3418 142nd Avenue.

INDUSTRIAL TENANTS

Valley South Corporate Park
Tarragon, Inc. at 142nd Avenue East
(200 acres)

TRUSS AND BUILDING SUPPLY COMPANY

Size: 90,000 sq. ft.
Employees: 75
What: Distribute building supplies up and down the West Coast.

NORVANCO INTERNATIONAL

Size: 186,000 sq. ft.
Employees: 80
What: Storage and distribution for Panasonic.

MAERSK SHIPPING

Size: 112,000 sq. ft. currently, will grow to 200,000 sq. ft. in 1 year, and up to 400,000 sq. ft. in 2 years.
Employees: 75
What: Storage and distribution for WalMart.

BROOKS SPORTS

Size: 112,000 sq. ft.
Employees: 60
What: Storage and distribution for Brooks Apparel and Shoes.

POST TRUCKING AND DISTRIBUTION

Size: 264,000 sq. ft.
Employees: 100
What: Warehousing/distribution of empty bottles and cans for beverages, soups, etc., for several companies.

GLEASON INDUSTRIES

Size: 42,000 sq. ft.
Employees: 20
What: Paper board converter. Cuts rolls of paper into sheets sized specifically to the customers' needs.

COSTCO

Size: 175,000 sq. ft.
Employees: 200
What: First phase of their development which will include a second phase with a 250,000 square foot dry storage depot.

Valley Distribution Center

Davis Properties at East Valley Highway and Elm Street (50 acres)

FAR WEST FREIGHT

Size: 61,000 sq. ft.
Employees: 100
What: General trucking and distribution in Pacific Northwest

Sumner Corporate Park

Brian Stowe at West Valley Highway
Now under construction for roads and utilities (180 acres)



CITY HALL CALENDAR

APRIL

APRIL 7

Forestry Commission
4 p.m., Council Chambers

APRIL 12

City Council Study Session
6 p.m., Council Chambers

APRIL 14

Arbor Day! Siebenthaler Park,
Maple Lawn and McAlder
Elementary Schools

APRIL 8

Design Commission
6 p.m., Conference Room

Planning Commission
6:30 p.m., Council Chambers

APRIL 17

Daffodil Parade, 3 p.m.

APRIL 19

City Council Regular Meeting
7 p.m., Council Chambers

APRIL 26

City Council Study Session
6 p.m., Council Chambers

MAY

MAY 3

City Council Regular Meeting
7 p.m., Council Chambers

MAY 5

Forestry Commission
4 p.m., Council Chambers

MAY 6

Planning Commission
7 p.m., Council Chambers

MAY 10

City Council Study Session
6 p.m., Council Chambers

MAY 13

Design Commission
6 p.m., Conference Room

MAY 17

City Council Regular Meeting
7 p.m., Council Chambers

MAY 24

City Council Study Session
6 p.m., Council Chambers

MAY 31

City offices closed for Memorial
Day

JUNE

JUNE 2

Forestry Commission
4 p.m., Council Chambers

JUNE 3

Planning Commission
7 p.m., Council Chambers

JUNE 7

City Council Regular Meeting
7 p.m., Council Chambers

JUNE 10

Design Commission
6 p.m., Conference Room

JUNE 14

City Council Study Session
6 p.m., Council Chambers

JUNE 21

City Council Regular Meeting
7 p.m., Council Chambers

JUNE 28

City Council Study Session
6 p.m., Council Chambers

FAMILY FUN FEST '99

Sunday, May 16
12:30 - 4 p.m.
Sumner High School



- ◆ FREE Food & Fun for Whole Family
- ◆ Interactive Games and Activities
- ◆ Entertainment - Music
- ◆ Community Resources
- ◆ Displays

Family Fun Fest is an afternoon of fun for children of all ages. Children can play games, create works of art, plant trees and flower seeds, see clowns, and listen to music. Over 45 vendors and various agencies, businesses, and service groups will be available to hand out information about the services they offer in the Sumner-Bonney Lake area. For further information, please call the STARR Project at (253) 891-6066.

Annual Daffodil Parade April 17

The 66th Annual Daffodil Festival Grand Floral Parade will come to Sumner on Saturday, April 17. The parade begins in Sumner at 3 p.m. and runs from Kincaid to Lewis Avenues. The parade theme this year is "Romance in Bloom".

Jeana Little was chosen as the 1999 Daffodil Queen at a pageant held March 19, at Calgary Community Church in Sumner. Jeana is a Sumner High School senior and daughter of Les and Janet Little. This year's Parade Grand Marshall will be John Curley from King TV's "Evening Magazine". Harold LeMay is Honorary Grand Marshall. LeMay, who owns a Tacoma garbage collection service, has a large collection of classic cars. A museum is being planned in Tacoma to display his collection.

The Daffodil Festival started in 1933 in Sumner as a tribute to this region's flower industry. The parade is conducted in four cities: Tacoma, Puyallup, Sumner and Orting.



JEANA LITTLE
1999 Daffodil Queen

Domestic Violence Emphasis Showing Results

Statistics show that cases of assaults related to domestic violence are decreasing in Sumner, and officials attribute this in part to the City's emphasis in recent years on stopping violence against women. Domestic violence assault cases in Sumner in 1998 dropped by 26 percent from the 118 cases that were recorded in 1997. The number of domestic violence incidents reported to police also have gone down.

Sumner and several other area cities in 1997 shared a \$14,370 grant to develop programs to fight domestic violence, particularly assaults against women. Sumner geared up its efforts on two fronts: police and prosecution. Cameras were purchased for each patrol car so officers could record by photograph any injuries sustained by a victim of domestic violence. The photographs were intended to be admissible in court. The Sumner City Attorney's office developed prosecution manuals that assist police officers and prosecutors, and also provide assistance and information to domestic violence victims. These manuals were also made available to the other cities that were recipients of the grant.

The greatest benefit for prosecutors is they now have tools such as victim photographs to prosecute a case instead of having to depend on a victim's testimony. Often victims would drop a case against an assaulter or refuse to testify and prosecutors would be unable to pursue the case. Now it is more often up to the City Attorney to determine whether to dismiss a case or prosecute. Sumner City Attorney Patricia Bosmans believes that Sumner's efforts in collecting evidence against perpetrators of domestic violence and successful prosecutions have resulted in fewer domestic violence incidents in Sumner.

Ordinance Regulates Parking of Large Trucks

The City Council has approved an ordinance now in effect that regulates the parking of large trucks on or near residential streets and on public rights of way. The ordinance affects trucks with a gross vehicle weight of over 24,000 pounds, trailers in excess of 10,000 pounds or 20 feet in length, or commercial vehicles wider than 8 feet. Under the new ordinance:

- It is unlawful to park or leave these vehicles standing on any street within a residential area or on that portion of a street abutting a residential area.
- It is unlawful to allow to remain the affected vehicles standing for more than eight hours upon any of the streets, avenues or alleys with the City limits.
- Vehicles over 24,000 pounds gross weight are prohibited from parking on the public right of way between the hours of midnight and 3 a.m. unless otherwise posted.
- Unattended vehicles of any size carrying hazardous materials are prohibited from parking at any time on any street, avenue or alley in the City.

RV Parking – Large recreational vehicles, including trailers, may be parked on residential streets for a period not to exceed 48 hours if the vehicle's owner(s) live in the adjacent residential building or are visiting residents of the adjacent building. Trailers must be attached to a vehicle while they are parked on a residential street.

Police to Impound Vehicle if License Suspended

As of Feb. 1, 1999, the City of Sumner began towing and impounding vehicles driven by drivers with suspended licenses. The 1998 state Legislature passed a law that gave cities the authority to impound the vehicles driven by drivers with suspended licenses. In 1998, Sumner found that 69% of drivers cited for criminal violations, such as reckless driving and driving under the influence, had suspended driver's licenses. Sumner police will tow and impound a vehicle driven by a driver with a suspended license for up to 90 days, depending on the degree of violation that resulted in the suspended license. The vehicle will be impounded even if it does not belong to the driver with the suspended license.



Annual Spring Clean-up is April 12 - 16

The annual Spring Clean-up is scheduled April 12 - 16. This free curbside collection service is for City of Sumner residential refuse customers only. Please have your items at their regular pick-up location by 7 a.m. on your regular scheduled garbage/recycling day.



Please use the coupons that were attached to a mailer sent to all residential customers in their April utility billings.

- Coupon #1 is for three extra bags of garbage. There is a weight restriction of 40 pounds per bag.
- Coupon #2 is for three extra containers of yard waste. Each container must weigh less than 40 pounds.
- Coupon #3 is for one major appliance. (For safety, please remove doors and latches from refrigerators or freezers).

If you lost or did not receive the coupons, please contact the City's utilities department at 863-8300 or stop by City Hall during regular business hours, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Items not accepted include: tires, furniture, remodeling debris, small appliances, microwave ovens and hazardous materials. Please call 1-800-287-6429 for information on where to dispose of hazardous materials.

CITY OF SUMNER WEB SITE
www.ci.sumner.wa.us

New Traffic Light Installed on Valley Ave.

A new four-way traffic signal was activated in February at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Meade McCumber Street. The new signal, which cost the City \$125,000, had been requested by area residents particularly in the neighborhood east of Valley along Meade McCumber. Children from those areas have to cross Valley Avenue to get to Sumner Junior High and Maple Lawn Elementary. Motorists also had difficulty turning south on Valley Avenue from Meade McCumber during peak traffic periods. Traffic volume on Meade McCumber is increasing because of the new housing developments in that portion of the city. Also, motorists are finding Meade McCumber a convenient route to the Sumner Senior Center and the QFC Shopping Center.



The new light is welcome by residents along Meade McCumber Street east of Valley Avenue.

City Receives Federal Grant

The City of Sumner has received a \$1.52 million grant through the state Urban Arterial Trust Account for improvements to Traffic Avenue adjacent to the Sumner RTA train station. The City plans to have the entire \$2.2 million Traffic Avenue improvements completed when the trains begin operation in 2000.

Valley Avenue Reopened to Truck Traffic

East Valley, from Elm Street to Main Street, has been reopened to truck traffic, which gives trucks a straight route through Sumner to the East Valley Highway. This truck route should alleviate congestion on Traffic Avenue caused by large trucks traveling to the north industrial area. Information on truck routes in the City are available at City Hall.

New Reservoir Nearing Completion

The City's new two million gallon water reservoir is under construction and is expected to be completed by early June 1999. The new reservoir is located on the bluff above the White River generating plant on East Valley Highway. The reservoir increases water flow and firefighting capabilities in the City's north end.

City Purchases New Street Sweeper



The new vehicle is a regenerative air crosswind sweeper.

The City of Sumner has purchased a new street sweeper that replaces an older sweeper. The new Elgin sweeper, which cost \$125,000, is different from the old brush sweepers. It sucks in dirt and debris like a giant vacuum cleaner and deposits the material into a large hopper. Street sweeping is important to removing street debris and protecting water quality in streams and rivers.

Sumner streets with curbs and gutters are swept once a week. The street sweeper is out on Thursdays and Fridays, weather permitting, beginning early in the morning (2 - 3 a.m.) on main thoroughfares when there is little traffic.

142nd Street Site Proposed for City Shops

The arrival of the Sound Transit Commuter Rail station will displace the current City shops which are located across from the fire station at 711 Narrow Street. While the need for new shops was anticipated in the late 1980's, it wasn't until Sound Transit agreed to acquire the property thus providing the financial resources to build a new facility. A seven-acre site on 142nd Avenue East is proposed for the new shops.

The process of looking for a new facility included examining a dozen possible sites which could be used. It was important the City find a site that would accommodate the future demands for the City activities, along with a site that had utilities and was affordable. Because the City's utility and road crews service the entire City, it was also important that the site be near the City's center.

The site on 142nd Avenue is just south of the new Tacoma Avenue bridge which is being constructed (see photo page 4). The City acquired the site last year as part of the land purchase for the bridge. While only two acres of the site will actually be developed with buildings and storage, the remainder of the site will be enhanced as open space and mitigation for construction along the White River.

The City's shops are used by the Public Works and Parks crews for offices, storage, vehicle maintenance and general operations. The new facility will be large enough to last the City for at least the next 20 years. There are currently 15 full-time employees who maintain the streets, utilities and parks from the shops. While the City's Hearing Examiner approved the project in February, permits from the state are pending.



Mike Connor



Kris Coppin



Dave Enslow



Mark Evers



Leroy Goff



Stuart Scheuerman



Ron Scholz

SHS Students Serve As Judge and Jury in Municipal Court

Sumner High School students are learning about the justice system first-hand through an arrangement between the City of Sumner and the Sumner School District.

High school students conduct a traffic court session at Sumner Municipal Court. A student serves as judge, a student serves as court clerk, and students sit on the jury. The defendants are also students.

This is not a mock court session; the participants are not pretending. The traffic violations are real and the sentences handed down by the jury are binding.

All of the participants in the student traffic court are class volunteers, including the defendants. Students enrolled in Scott Urling's class "You and the Law" apply for positions as judge, judge pro tem, clerk and to be on the jury. The defendants must be Sumner High School students who have been cited for a minor traffic offense ranging from a parking ticket to speeding violations (up to 25 mph over the speed limit). The defendants are mitigating their cases. They come to court admitting they are guilty of the violation but would like to explain the circumstances.

The purpose of the Student Court program is to provide



an opportunity for education in justice system issues and procedures, while allowing Sumner students to avoid, through performance of community service, the direct monetary penalties of committing certain traffic and parking infractions. The student violator takes responsibility for committing the infraction and serves the community while

keeping the violation off his or her driving record.

The script used by the student judge to conduct court was written by the City's Court Administrator Wendy Shook. The program was written to make the process as realistic as possible, while involving the greatest number of students. Municipal Court staff members volunteer time to attend the court sessions which are held in the courtroom at City Hall.

Going to student court is not an "easy way out" for violators. Students must commit a substantial amount to community service to complete the program.

The first student traffic court session included two speeding violations and resulted in a sentence of 40 hours of community service for each driver. The offenders were given a choice of places to perform their community service ranging from nursing homes to food banks.



CITY OF SUMNER
1104 Maple St.
Sumner, WA 98390

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SUMNER, WA
PERMIT NO. 1

ECRWSS

POSTAL CUSTOMER



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER