



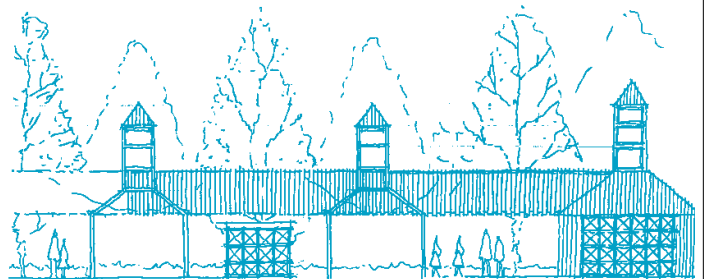
# COMMUNITY CONNECTION

## Train Station Design Reflects Sumner's History, Tradition

**D**esign work is almost complete and construction of the new Sound Transit train station in downtown Sumner will get under way next April. By this time next year, the first trains will be tested on the new lines and ready to roll when service begins in December 1999.

The new train station will be constructed on Traffic Avenue at Maple Street, at the site of the City shops. This is the site of Sumner's former train station that was torn down in 1976. The new structure will be on the east side of the railroad tracks with 150-foot long covered platforms on both sides of the tracks. The station is designed to resemble a hops kiln to reflect the agricultural history and tradition of the Sumner Valley. Roofing and siding will be heavy corrugated metal. Colors will be green and red, similar to the gazebo at nearby Heritage Park, and matching the color of rhubarb which remains one of Sumner's primary crops.

Narrow Street, in front of the station, will be widened to provide drop-off/pickup zones and bus lanes. The station will serve as a regional transit center for Pierce Transit. Bus schedules for several routes will be coordinated with Sumner train arrivals. The station will have facilities for bicycle storage and free parking



*This drawing shows the platform areas of the new station, designed with its tall towers to resemble a hops kiln.*

will be available for 300 - 350 vehicles at park-and-ride lots on the north and south ends of the station. The lots should provide ample parking capacity for the first years of train service; however, space is available at the north lot for a parking garage if necessary at a later date.

One area of concern has been the traffic impact on downtown residential areas, particularly during the afternoon peak period when commuters depart the trains all at once. The City is exploring the possibility of constructing a street through the fire station property west of the station connecting Harrison and Thompson Streets. From Thompson Street, motorists have direct access to SR 410 freeway on-ramps.

- For more on the train station, see page 3.

## Train Service From Sumner



- Monday through Friday only
- 3 hours in morning; 3 hours in afternoon (peak periods)
- 18 trains per day; 9 in morning, 9 in afternoon
- Trains leave/arrive every 1/2 hour
- Trains will have two 150-passenger cars
- Sumner - Seattle (King Street Station) 45-minute trip
- Stops at Tacoma Dome, Puyallup, Auburn, Kent, Tukwila, King Street Station
- Service begins December 1999

## See Inside

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## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

What a great summer! In June, Sumner School District saw its Centennial (100th) Class graduate. In August, Sumner Promotion Association held the best Sumner Summer Festival ever, in its entire 25-year history. Then a Centennial Reunion had 1,200 alums of Sumner High crowding Emerald Downs Race Track – and perfect weather all the while.



Barbara Skinner

September 13, Rotary Club of Sumner dedicated the Daffodil Valley Sports Complex and presented it to the City of Sumner. Our thanks go to Rotary and to Bill Heath, who led this 10-year, \$2.5 million project. Bill credits those who donated time, money, goods and services. Nevertheless, the City will place a monument at the complex honoring Bill and explaining that without Bill Heath there would be no complex. The monument

will assure that his incredible gift to our community will be remembered.

On another note, the City budget process for 1999 has begun. Have you ever wondered how Sumner decides where to spend your tax dollars? The first and third Mondays of November, at City Hall, we will hold public hearings on the proposed budget. Consider attending the hearings and becoming part of the process. We could use your guidance. After Thanksgiving, Sumner will be decorated for the holidays with bright lights and boughs strung across Main Street. Of course, the stores on and off Main Street will also be decorated for the season. Remember to patronize our local merchants. We have some fascinating shops in Sumner that people drive many miles to visit. Have you wandered through them? Give yourself a treat.

Have a happy and safe Holiday Season!

– Barbara Skinner, Mayor

## Jury Pool Needed for Municipal Court

Many people may not realize that the City of Sumner has a judicial branch of government – Municipal Court. This is where motorists pay a Sumner traffic fine or present their case to a judge. Sumner Municipal Court is a “court of limited jurisdiction” and handles infractions such as speeding tickets and criminal misdemeanors like DWI, petty theft or malicious mischief. The municipal court does not process felonies, small claims cases or divorce proceedings.

Sumner Municipal Court, located at Sumner City Hall next to the Police Department, handles about 1,800 cases in a typical year. Municipal Court sessions are held every Tuesday. A.E. Hammermaster, who has a law firm in Sumner, is the part-time judge. Tom Ryan and David Hammermaster are pro-tem judges. Wendy Shook is the Court Administrator.

One of the Court Administrator's greatest challenges is developing a jury pool – a list of qualified citizens willing to serve on juries when needed. The court sends out preliminary questionnaires to

individuals randomly selected from a master jury list provided by Pierce County. The questionnaires are used to determine who is qualified for service as a juror. To be qualified for jury service in Sumner, a person must be 18 years old and a U.S. citizen; live in Pierce County; be able to communicate in the English language; and, if convicted of a felony, have their civil rights restored. The Court needs about 200 jurors each year.

The Court Administrator encourages citizens receiving the questionnaires to return them. Many people may feel they do not have the time to serve on a jury and therefore do not return the questionnaires; however, most jury trials at Sumner Municipal Court are over rather quickly and require only one day, or even a few hours, of commitment as a juror. Under this country's system of government, citizens have a right to a jury trial, but they also have a civic obligation to make themselves available to serve on a jury, according to the Court Administrator. For more information about Municipal Court or jury service, please call the City's court at 891-3310.

## Sumner Keeps “A” Financial Rating

The City of Sumner recently completed two significant debt financing transactions for the water/sewer utility and golf course facilities which has resulted in major savings for the City's utility customers and citizens. The City refinanced \$5,340,000 in sewer debt which lowered the interest rate on this debt from 6.27% to 4.82%, resulting in a savings of \$507,715

By the Mayor and City Council making some significant decisions to improve the City's financial structure, the City was able to obtain from “Standard and Poors” an “A” rating for the City's utilities and an “A” rating for non-voted General Obligation (G.O.) bonds. As a result of these exceptional bond ratings, the City has received an additional \$94,497 in savings for the water utility debt financing and an additional savings of \$221,253 for the golf course G.O. bonds.

## City Staff Appointments

Welcome to these new City employees:

Justin Doyle - Firefighter

Twyla Proctor - Receptionist, Fire Dept.

## Fall Yard Waste Cleanup Nov. 9 - 18

The City's annual Fall Yard Waste Cleanup, Nov. 9 - 13, is an opportunity for Sumner residents to dispose of their yard waste at **NO CHARGE!** The cleanup is limited to existing City of Sumner Yard Waste customers only. The annual refuse cleanup for City residential refuse customers will be held in the spring.

For more information on the Fall Yard Waste Cleanup, please see the insert in your utility bill.



## Train Station Planning Began in 1994

The Sumner train station is being funded through the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority (now called Sound Transit). Voters in November of 1996 approved a tax increase to fund the regional transit system.

Planning for Sumner's train station began in 1994 with two potential sites chosen after considerable public input: one near the Union Pacific tracks near the Old Cannery furniture store, and the current location at Traffic and Maple. The planning process was delayed when the first RTA funding measure failed

at the polls. A scaled-down RTA proposal gained voter approval in 1996 and planning for Sumner's station proceeded.

A Technical Advisory Committee, made up of City staff members, Sound Transit representatives, consultants, a City Councilman, the Mayor and various citizens was formed to develop a design and theme for the new station and work out other details. The committee held two workshops in early September to present their plans to the public.

## City Plans Downtown Improvements

Much of Sumner's downtown area will be enhanced with new outdoor lighting, street trees, benches, bike racks and widened sidewalks from a \$650,000 federal Transportation 21 grant received by the City. The plan is to create a pedestrian-oriented downtown connected to the train station area - attracting train commuters to various stores and

restaurants along Main Street and side streets. In addition to the federal grant funds, the City is contributing \$150,000. Improvements will be completed by the time the train station opens for service in December 1999. With additional funds from Pierce Transit, the City also plans to use funds from the grant to build five bus shelters at various locations around town.

### CITY OF SUMNER

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

#### MAYOR

Barbara Skinner

#### CITY COUNCIL

Kris Coppin  
Dave Enslow  
Mark Evers  
Kathy Fewins, Mayor Pro Tem  
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  
Les MacDonald Public Works Director  
Mary Smith Senior Center Director



## Livable Communities Fair

Saturday, Nov. 7  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Seattle Center

Tired of neighborhood traffic?

Concerned about changes in your community?

Looking for solutions?

Come and learn practical programs and projects you can take back to your community.

- ◆ Booths
- ◆ Workshops
- ◆ Speakers
- ◆ Free child-care provided

Call (206) 296-0355 for information or visit the website:  
[www.livablecommunities.org](http://www.livablecommunities.org)

The City of Sumner is one of more than 80 sponsors of this event.

## Sewer Charges To Be Based On Water Usage

Sewer customers will notice a change in billing after the end of the year. Sewer charges will change from a flat rate to a usage rate effective January 1, 1999. The sewer charge will be based on the amount of water used during each month.

The usage rate throughout the year will be based on water usage during the months of December, January, February and March. The rate is being calculated this way since little outdoor watering is done during those winter months, and nearly all water used goes through the sewer. The flat rate for sewer is currently \$23.45 per month. Small families with low water usage will likely see a reduction in their monthly charge, while larger families may pay more.

## PUBLIC WORKS

### New Bridge Being Built Over Puyallup River

The new bridge currently being constructed over the Puyallup River on Traffic Avenue is a joint project involving the Cities of Sumner and Puyallup, Pierce County and the federal government which is paying 80 percent of the costs.

The existing two-lane, steel-truss structure is being replaced by a five or six lane concrete span which will include bike lanes and sidewalks. The project will be constructed in phases over the next few years. The existing bridge will be taken down when one half the new structure is completed and able to carry traffic. The second half of the new bridge will be built in the location of the current structure.

### Salmon Creek Culvert Project

The City of Sumner has received approval for a \$370,000 federal grant to replace and/or add to existing Salmon Creek culverts throughout the City. Work will be done on culverts where Salmon Creek crosses under roadways and driveways. Many of these culverts are undersized which causes area flooding during the winter. The larger culverts should alleviate significant flooding at the north end of 160th Avenue East near the Weber Meats plant.

The City will be coordinating its work on Salmon Creek with the Stream Team, an organization that is working to restore the spawning grounds for chum and coho salmon on the waterway. Work on the culverts will be conducted next summer. For information about the culvert project, please call Assistant City Engineer, Scott Woodbury, at 863-8300.



The existing two-lane steel structure is being replaced by a concrete span.

### Residents Can Use Rat Control Measures

The City Public Works Department occasionally receives calls about rat sightings in and around Sumner. The City conducts annual baiting in its sewer system to control rats. Residents can take the following measures to discourage rats from coming onto their property:

- Cover garbage cans with tight covers - if a can has holes, dispose of it and get a new one.
- Store bird feed, pet food, chicken feed, and any other type of animal feed in rat-proof containers or in places inaccessible to rats.
- Do not leave any pet food or animal feedings outside.
- Keep yard clean of dog bones, fallen fruit, and garbage.
- Raise chicken coops & rabbit hutches at least 18" off the ground.

## CITY PHONE NUMBERS



### MAYOR

Barbara Skinner .....891-3318

### CITY COUNCIL (Voice mail)

Kris Coppin .....891-3331  
 Dave Enslow .....891-3338  
 Mark Evers .....891-3330  
 Kathy Fewins .....891-3332  
 Leroy Goff .....891-3335  
 Stuart Scheuerman .....891-3334  
 Ron Scholz .....891-3336

### CITY OFFICES

Administration/Finance .....863-8300  
 FAX 863-2850  
 Cemetery .....863-6345  
 Court .....863-7635  
 Fire (non-emergency) .....863-5451  
 Golf Course .....863-8198  
 Parks & Recreation .....863-5365  
 Permit Center .....863-1230  
 Police (non-emergency) .....863-6384  
 Senior Center .....863-2910

Sewer Treatment Plant  
 Odor Hotline .....891-3294

**POLICE/FIRE EMERGENCY  
 CALL 911**

### Bicycle Maps Available

Maps which show bicycle routes in Pierce County are available at the City's Permit Center. The maps are sponsored by Pierce County, the City of Sumner, and other jurisdictions and businesses.





# CITY HALL CALENDAR

## OCTOBER

### OCTOBER 5

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

### OCTOBER 8

Design Commission,  
6 p.m., Council Chambers

### OCTOBER 12

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

### OCTOBER 14

Forestry Commission  
4 p.m., Council Chambers

### OCTOBER 19

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

### OCTOBER 26

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

## NOVEMBER

### NOVEMBER 2

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

### NOVEMBER 4

Forestry Commission  
4:30 p.m., Council Chambers

### NOVEMBER 5

Planning Commission  
7 p.m., Council Chambers

### NOVEMBER 9

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

### NOVEMBER 12

Design Commission  
6 p.m., Council Chambers

### NOVEMBER 16

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

### NOVEMBER 23

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

### NOVEMBER 26 & 27

Thanksgiving holidays,  
City offices closed

## DECEMBER

### DECEMBER 2

Forestry Commission  
4:30 p.m., Council Chambers

### DECEMBER 3

Planning Commission  
7 p.m., Council Chambers

### DECEMBER 7

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

### DECEMBER 10

Design Commission  
6 p.m., Council Chambers

### DECEMBER 14

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

### DECEMBER 21

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

### DECEMBER 25

City offices closed for Christmas  
holiday

*Happy Holidays*

## Commissioners Thanked

The City of Sumner wishes to thank and acknowledge two individuals for their dedication to the City's Planning Commission. Bill Russell and Winnie Vittetoe each served on the Sumner Planning Commission for over 12 years. Bill resigned from the Commission this past spring and Winnie passed away in August. Their commitment to growth management and appropriate land use planning have left an indelible mark on the City of Sumner. They put in countless hours to ensure that Sumner would see growth and zoning changes that were consistent with the character of the community. Thank you to two outstanding citizens!

*Information about all City of Sumner meetings and other City activities can be found on the world wide web at:*  
**[www.ci.sumner.wa.us](http://www.ci.sumner.wa.us)**

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### SANTA PARADE

The annual Santa Parade will go down Main Street on Saturday, December 5 at 2:30 p.m.

### CONCERT AT PAC

"Autumn Interlude" presented by the Puget Sound Music Society, featuring classical selections by Tchaikovsky, Grainger, and others. Friday, October 23, 7:30 p.m. at the Sumner Performing Arts Center. Admission is by FREE ticket. Tickets are available at Hi Ho Music Center and Plaza Music Center in Puyallup.



### STREET OF SCREAMS

October 31, Saturday, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
Merchants will be giving candy to children along Main Street.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

### Sumner, Puyallup Execute Agreement to Trade Services

The Cities of Sumner and Puyallup have agreed to a unique exchange of services: Sumner will provide animal control services for both cities in exchange for use of the Puyallup jail to house Sumner inmates. City Councils from both cities have approved the arrangement which is scheduled to be implemented by the end of the year.

Sumner is receiving about \$75,000 worth of jail services from Puyallup in exchange for providing about \$75,000 a year worth of animal control services. Sumner will continue to use its current jail as a holding facility. The jail is undersized, does not meet minimum standards and Sumner was faced with having to build an expensive new jail. Instead, the City explored options that would save taxpayers money and came up with the arrangement with Puyallup.

The only immediate impact on residents is now Sumner will operate animal control out of the animal shelter in Puyallup. The shelter will be open for walk-in service 20 hours a week.

The City is exploring options for providing long-term jail services. Part of the planning process for a new police facility includes consideration of building a new jail in Sumner. Alternatives include the construction of a new jail or additional jail space with another city, such as Puyallup or Fife. A survey asking for input from Sumner residents on the jail issue will be distributed in future utility bills.

### New DARE Officer Joins Police Dept.



*John Galle*

John Galle has joined the Sumner Police Department as a new police officer and DARE officer. John is a former high school principal from a Tacoma parochial school system.

After joining the Police Department last year, John attended two weeks of specialized DARE training in Shelton. He will be spending much of his time working with sixth graders at elementary schools in Sumner in the 16-week DARE program.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

### Fire Dist. 1, Sumner Fire Dept. Serve Area as a Team

For over 50 years, Pierce County Fire District 1 has had a relationship with the City of Sumner Fire Department for response to fire, medical, rescue, and other natural and man-made emergencies.

Pierce County Fire District 1, which surrounds the City of Sumner, is the oldest fire district in Pierce County and may be the oldest organized fire district in the State of Washington. The Fire District is overseen by three elected officials, each elected for a six year term. The three current Fire District Commissioners are very active in their duties and work hard at ensuring that a high level of service is provided to their constituents.

### Fire District 1 Commissioners



*Mike Cathey*



*Greg Hanon*



*Don Hayford*

The current Fire District chairperson is Greg Hanon. Mr. Hanon has lived in the Puyallup Valley most of his life and has resided in Sumner for the last two years. He is self-employed as a professional lobbyist, working out of his home, as well as having an office in Olympia.

The present vice chairperson for the District is Mike Cathey. Mr. Cathey is a longtime resident of Sumner, having attended and graduated from the Sumner school system. He is employed by Shinstine Associates, Inc. as a superintendent.

The third Fire District Commissioner is Don Hayford. Mr. Hayford is also a longtime resident of the Sumner area, and is well known by the local farming community. He owns and operates one of Sumner's successful farming operations, Leslie Farms.

These individuals work very hard in exercising their responsibilities as Fire District Commissioners. Working in cooperation and collaboration with the City of Sumner, they strive to provide the Sumner area with quality, reliable fire protection and emergency services.

## Restrooms Recommended For City Parks

The Sumner Parks Board is exploring the possibility of installing restrooms at City parks. Loyalty Park would be the first park to be recommended to get a restroom. The park has an old cinderblock restroom that was closed years ago. The Parks Board is looking into the possibility of having a modular restroom facility trucked in and installed at the park. The restroom would be closed at night and placed in a secure area visible from adjacent roads. Currently, there are two "honeybucket" restrooms at Loyalty Park.

The Parks Board has proposed funding for the restroom be included in next year's City budget. The recommendation would go to the Mayor for consideration of funding and then to the City Council for final consideration.

Citizens are welcome to attend meetings of the Parks Board and offer their ideas and suggestions. Please call City Hall for times and locations. Parks Board members are Paul Surek, Jim Woolery, Lorraine Carnahan, Ken Woolery and Larry Johns.

## Heritage Park Paver Sale

Brick pavers can still be purchased for Reuben Knoblauch Heritage Park. The pavers frame the centennial plaque in the front of the park and will eventually surround the dance floor in front of the gazebo. For \$35 you may print up to three lines with 20 characters per line. They make a great gift!

To purchase a paver, contact Janel Hermsmeyer in the Community Development Department at 891-3303 or janelh@ci.sumner.wa.us.

## Sumner Family Center Offers Assistance

The Sumner Family Center, located at 918 Alder Street in downtown Sumner, is a support center where area residents can come for family service assistance. The Center is staffed by a coordinator, Lu Ann Ugas, who helps set up individuals or groups with support services such as parenting and public health. The Center is funded by the Cities of Sumner, Bonney Lake and the Sumner School District.

The Center's mission statement is: "To educate, strengthen and support children and families to allow them the opportunity to become self-sufficient and successful, as well as active and contributing members of the community."

Over the summer, the Family Support Center conducted "Math is Fun" and "Summer Reading" programs for Sumner elementary students, both taught by Alisa Allen, a 6th grade teacher at Bonney Lake Elementary. In June, a three-day "Safety Fun Fest" was held at Loyalty Park. The "Bike Safety Rodeo" was held on the first day, followed by the "Fire, Smoke & Water" program and "Back to School



*Sumner Family Center is at 918 Alder St. in downtown Sumner.*

Fest" on the next two days. About 100 children attended each program.

The Family Center is working with City staff and other social service agencies to plan for health care and human services. Over the past decade, the federal and state governments have shifted more responsibility for social programs to local government. Affordable housing, welfare-to-work, reading to learn, victim assistance, senior citizen assistance, and domestic violence response are programs where the City is working with others to provide needed services.

### SUMNER SENIOR CENTER

## Seniors Raising Money For New Van

The Sumner Senior Center is trying to raise \$40,000 to purchase a new 15-passenger van that can be used to transport seniors on field trips and other activities. The fund-raising drive began in July and more than \$15,000 has been collected through garage sales, penny drives, can collecting, and donations.

The Senior Center currently has an 11-year-old van that is used for transporting seniors to and from the Senior Center and on trips. The van is hard to get in and out of for many seniors, while the new, larger 15-

passenger model has a center aisle for easier access. Both vans will be needed in future years as the demand grows with more senior housing developments planned near the Senior Center.

The Senior Center has applied for numerous grants to help pay for the van, but more donations will be needed. Citizens who would like to contribute to the Van Fund should contact the Senior Center at 863-2910 or send donations to: Senior Center Van Fund, 15506 62nd Ave. E., Sumner 98390.



Kris  
Coppin



Dave  
Enslow



Mark  
Evers



Kathy  
Fewins



Leroy  
Goff



Stuart  
Scheuerman



Ron  
Scholz

## 'Communities For Families' Coalition Plans 1998-99 Activities

**C**ommunities for Families is a coalition made up of City and school officials, teacher, students, business persons and citizens. The coalition meets the first Thursday of the month, 3 - 5 p.m., at the Sumner School District Board Room, 1202 Wood Ave. In August, the coalition decided on the following activities for the 1998-99 school year:

- **1998 Youth Forum Series, October 1998**  
*An opportunity for local youth to give input about the strengths and needs of their community.*
- **6th Annual Community Summit, November 1998**  
*Adults and youth address priority issues impacting children and families in the greater Sumner/Bonney Lake area.*

- **Joint Coalition Meeting, February 1999**  
*A gathering of Pierce County coalitions which are mobilizing communities to support families.*
- **3rd Annual Fun Fest, May 1999**  
*Free family event with fun activities for kids of all ages.*

The upcoming Youth Forum Series in October will take place in Sumner secondary schools. Community representatives will visit classes to speak to small groups of students about the strengths and needs of the community. The purpose is to address community needs and help young people become involved in addressing those needs. In previous years, similar youth forums have identified needs for a skateboard park in Sumner and youth center in Bonney Lake.



**CITY OF SUMNER**  
1104 Maple St.  
Sumner, WA 98390

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