



District 3 Commissioner Newsletter

Bringing Balance to the CK Community

New Playground at Silverdale Waterfront Park

Opens this Month

The play equipment at Silverdale Waterfront Park where children scrambled over and bounced around for 25 years finally succumbed to the heavy use and harsh weather that blows in saltwater from Dyes Inlet bordering the park. Now, the Kitsap



County Parks Department has a \$178,000 playground makeover underway and a ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for 10 a.m., Saturday, March 26. Commissioner Ed Wolfe invites children from all over Central Kitsap and beyond to join the county in celebrating the new equipment.

“As one of our area’s most popular outdoor parks, we wanted to re-invest to make it, once again, an outstanding, long-lasting family playground. It’s a beautiful asset for Silverdale. The new structures are safe and designed to withstand new generations of adventurous kids,” remarked County Commissioner Ed Wolfe.

The old playground equipment was expected to last 15 years but remained in use for a decade longer. Many of the metal support poles were rusted and cracked. The spring-rider toys, meant for toddlers, were broken many times over and a teeter-totter beyond repair was recently removed. The playground is the centerpiece of the 2.3-acre park, located at 3337 NW Byron Street, which also features a saltwater beach, restrooms, gazebo and picnic shelter.

After much research and interviewing families who frequent the park, the Parks Department found equipment for multiple ages and abilities, and fun for a single child or a whole classroom. It also fits the existing play surface, and includes a Kompan Fantasy Ship, a climbing dome and an individual “spinner.”

Other park improvements are planned for the near future. As funding becomes available, a second phase will include new swing sets, picnic tables and park benches. Shade trees, a colorful border of perennial flowering plants and small shrubs will be planted, providing year-round beauty and improving the overall ecological nature of the seaside park.

For more information on Kitsap County Parks, visit www.kitsapgov.com/parks or call 360.337.5350.

Many politicians pose for photos with babies – Commissioner Wolfe poses with baby reptiles! He attended the 37th annual Bremerton Rotary Wild Game dinner on February 27. The annual dinner and auction raises money for many notable causes. With him (and the baby alligator), are Sheriff Gary Simpson and his wife, Kathleen Donahue.



Central Kitsap School District Bond and Levy Passage

On the February 9 ballot, the Central Kitsap School District asked voters to approve a capital bond and levy. It was approved by a super-majority (60 percent) of voters. The bond will fund safe and secure entries for all schools in need of them; critical and required repairs in district schools; update and expand Olympic High School and Klahowya Secondary School; and demolition and replacement of Central Kitsap High School and Middle School. The levy, which is not used for building projects, will go toward activities, athletics, arts, drama, music, libraries, classroom computers, smaller class sizes, special education, teachers, staff and transportation.

Commissioner Wolfe supported the bond and levy in his personal capacity, and is a strong believer that good schools make a strong community.

For more information on bond and levy-funded projects, visit <http://www.ckschools.org/cms/one.aspx?portalId=11175&pageId=168399>.



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Local Business Spotlight: New Businesses in Silverdale

Kitsap County in general, and Silverdale in particular, are booming! In 2015, retail sales alone totaled \$1 billion County-wide. That was a nine percent increase over 2014. Kitsap County received \$4.1 million in permitting fees in 2015, which was a twelve percent increase over the previous year.

Creating a climate where businesses can succeed is one of Commissioner Wolfe's priorities. Improvements in the economy and developments currently underway are creating opportunities for many new businesses in Silverdale. Commissioner Wolfe was on hand to welcome three new businesses to Silverdale in recent weeks (photos courtesy of Debbie Gilman Photography):

Equilibrium Natural Health – The ribbon cutting for Equilibrium Natural Health took place March 1. The office is located at 3100 Bucklin Hill Road, Suite 206D, in Silverdale. Naturopathic physicians, Dr. Cy Fisher and Dr. Desha Wood, use a variety of natural therapies to achieve their mission of “Increasing quality of life through increasing health. Supporting natural therapies and getting back to nature.” To learn more about their practice, visit <http://www.equilibriumwa.net/>.



Cornerstone Montessori School – Located at 10730 Old Frontier Road at Greaves Way, Cornerstone Montessori offers Montessori classes for children aged 3-6. The school follows the Central Kitsap School District calendar and offers a summer program. For more information, visit cornerstonekitsap.com.



Total Wine & More – On March 9, Total Wine & More, located in the new The Trails at Silverdale shopping center, held a grand-opening preview event and ribbon cutting as part of its grand opening celebration. A lot of information about their business can be guessed by their name, but the store sells over 8,000 different wines, 3,000 spir-its, and 2,500 varieties of beer. For more information, visit www.totalwine.com.



Silverdale Way Improvements

A Kitsap County Public Works pre-design study conducted in the 1990s identified four segments of Silverdale Way that needed improvement. Those segments, and their proposed improvements, are as follows:

- Chico Way Intersection – two land roundabout (Phase I – completed 2012)
- Silverdale Way from Byron to Anderson Hill (Phase II, 2017 – described below)
- Newberry Hill Road from SR 3 to Chico Way – widen to four lanes
- Silverdale Way from Chico Way to Byron – widen to five lanes

The first segment, the intersection with Chico Way, was completed in 2012 and included a roundabout. The next phase of construction is anticipated to begin in Spring 2017 to improve the stretch of road between Byron and Anderson Hill, near Old Town Silverdale. The project will:

- Widen the roadway to five lanes between Byron and Anderson Hill (two northbound, two southbound, and a center-turn lane)
- Provide five-foot bike lanes, six-foot landscaping areas, and eight-foot sidewalks
- Install new street lighting through the project area and a new traffic signal at the Byron intersection
- Upgrade the existing storm system and provide treatment for the 30-acre drainage basin
- Construct permanent retaining walls

To learn more about the project or voice concerns, please contact Gunnar Fridriksson in the Public Works Department at (360)337-5777 or gfridrik@co.kitsap.wa.us.



Central Kitsap Community Campus Update

Things are moving forward on the next redevelopment phase on the Central Kitsap Community Campus and residents will be seeing some big changes in the coming months. Below are status updates.

Community Center Demolition

Contractors are working hard to remove lead and asbestos in the Community Center. This effort roughly takes three weeks to complete and is necessary before demolition can occur to ensure safety for the public and all involved. To keep this moving forward, the County will be advertising demolition bids mid-March, with the goal of a contractor selected in April. Demolition and removal of the debris are estimated to begin in May/June.

Redevelopment Plan

Following demolition, the County is moving forward on two key elements for redevelopment of the site. One, currently out for bid solicitations is a development services request for consultant services to assist the County and interested parties in identifying the scope of the next phase of redevelopment on the Community Center site and the CK Campus as a whole. The scope of the redevelopment plan in the next few years is as follows:

- Develop a phased, full-build-out redevelopment strategy for the CK Campus properties that is realistic and financially-achievable; and
- Prepare land use, environmental and site development permit submittals consistent with Kitsap County Code and other relevant local, state and federal requirements. This effort is intended to achieve project entitlements for a near-term Phase II redevelopment plan, a site plan that identifies associated uses and required parking on the CK Campus; and
- Conduct, public outreach and work with interested parties like the Central Kitsap Community Council (CKCC) and general public to ensure the Campus vision is achieved in the redevelopment plan.

Another critical element of the redevelopment plan is the relocation of the Silverdale Sheriff's Precinct Office. The office space located behind the Community Center no longer meets their needs. These operations and future needs are not intended to be integrated in the long-term redevelopment vision of the Campus. As such, alternative locations that provide quick access to transportation networks will need to be identified before redevelopment proceeds forward. In a separate consultant request for services, the County is seeking a firm that will determine spatial, usage and site locational requirements for a new Central Kitsap precinct office. Once these informational pieces are known, then the County can begin exploring what type of real estate option is best for the long-term use of this critical community service. We hope consultants for both the development services contract and the sheriff relocation assessment will be on board by April/May 2016.

As you can see, many pieces vital to completing the redevelopment puzzle are moving forward on the Campus with the goal to create a multi-use center in the heart of Silverdale that is enjoyed day and night. As the year moves from Spring to Summer, you will be seeing much more planning activity on the Campus and refining what it will be in the future.



Commissioner Wolfe attended the Central Kitsap Fire and Rescue's recent training exercise at the Silverdale Community Center prior to its demolition early this spring. The Silverdale Community Center has been closed off to public use due to substantial water damage in winter 2014.

Mock Court Championships



High school students from throughout Kitsap County and Port Townsend gathered Feb. 27 for courtroom drama at the Kitsap County Courthouse in Port Orchard where they teamed up for a highly litigated mock trial competition. Each team represented the plaintiff in one trial, and the defendant in the other. The competition is part of the YMCA's Mock Trial Program, founded in 1987, that offers teens access to and participation in the judicial branch of government.

Kitsap County Commissioner and former Judge Pro Tem Edward Wolfe, Bremerton Municipal Court Judge James Doctor, and Superior Court Judge Kevin Hull volunteered to preside over the trials, with Judge Jeffery Jahns coordinating the entire event. The Port Townsend High School Team won the district competition and moved on to the statewide competition in Olympia March 18-20. Winner of the state contest will compete at the national level.

"It was an honor to be a judge presiding over these mock trials," said Commissioner Wolfe. "Kitsap County should be proud of its teams. I commend the local YMCA for supporting this program and providing an opportunity for young people to learn more about the legal profession and develop their own critical thinking while working with real judges."

The YMCA Mock Trial program is an effort to empower teens to develop an understanding of case law and the role of the court system. Students in grades 8-12 also learn skills in writing, research and public speaking. For more information, contact Judge Jeffrey Jahns, Kitsap County Mock Trial coordinator, at jjahns@co.kitsap.wa.us.