

Burien City News

CITY OF BURIEN NEWSLETTER

WWW.BURIENWA.GOV

MARCH 2013

CITY COUNCIL MESSAGE

Burien has come a long way in the 20 years since we became a City. We have a beautiful town center and new City Hall/Library, a revived downtown business district, strong neighborhoods, and we've grown from a City of 27,700 to 48,000 population. People love Burien because of its parks, businesses, neighborhoods and general quality of life. Our future is bright.



(Top left, clockwise) Lucy Krakowiak, Rose Clark, Joan McGilton, Gerald Robison, Brian Bennett and Bob Edgar. Not pictured: Jack Block, Jr.

As Mayor Bennett said at the March 4 birthday celebration, the success of our City in its first 20 years is due to the work the community and its leaders have done. Thanks goes to the councilmembers and others who have helped build a strong community. Many of these councilmembers attended the City's birthday celebration, including all of our mayors, past and current (see picture, right).

Also recognized at that celebration were our Citizens of the Year Michael Noakes and Donna DiFoire; Michael for his volunteer work on a shoreline management program that saved the City thousands of dollars it would have paid in consulting fees, and Donna for her valuable assistance to the artist who painted the downtown mural across from the library.

We hope to see a good turnout at the annual Burien Clean Sweep on April 20. This is an opportunity to get outside with your neighbors and community members and help spruce up the downtown area.

— Your City Council

Council Honors Two as Citizens of Year

The City Council on March 4 honored Michael Noakes and Donna DiFiore as co-winners of Citizen of the Year for 2012.

Michael is a Puget Sound shoreline resident who is a point of contact for residents interested in shoreline management issues. He was instrumental in working with neighborhoods to provide thoughtful and meaningful input into the effort to update the City's Shoreline Master Program. He subsequently served as a member of the City Council-appointed Shoreline Working Group formed in 2010. The group was created to negotiate with City and State officials resolutions to the remaining issues stalling the Shoreline Master Program update effort. He has served as a spokesman for the working group and has been instrumental in crafting solutions based on countless hours of research, negotiation and technical writing.



Michael Noakes



Donna DiFiore

Donna was recognized for her long-time participation on the Burien Arts Commission and for her assistance to the artist who painted the mural last summer on the Dollar Tree wall on 4th Avenue SW. Donna invited the artist to stay in her home for the five weeks she was in Burien to work on the mural. Donna also assisted the artist at the mural site.

The City Council annually chooses the Citizen of the Year in a program that started shortly after Burien became a City. The winners are chosen for their contributions in improving the quality of life in Burien.

Burien Clean Sweep

Help Clean Up the City April 20

Grab your gloves and rake, and join your friends and neighbors in cleaning up the community in the annual Burien Clean Sweep. Participants get started bright and early, meeting at 8 am on Saturday, April 20, at the Burien Fire Station, 15100 8th Ave. S.W. (The meeting location could change to the new fire station at 900 SW 146th St.)

Participants can enjoy a continental breakfast before receiving their assignment. Bring your own tools and if needed, rain gear. Everyone gathers back at the Fire Station at noon where they are treated to a barbecue lunch and raffle, sponsored by Burien merchants. For information or to sign up a group, call Debra George (206) 941-7199, or the Discover Burien office at (206) 433-2882.



Burien's Mayors

Current and former Burien mayors gathered for a group photo at the City's 20th birthday celebration held March 4. Burien became a City on Feb. 28, 1993. Pictured from left: Sally Nelson (2000-2001), Brian Bennett (2012 - current), Arun Jhaveri (1992-1997), Wing Woo (2002-2003), Kitty Milne (1998-1999), Noel Gibb (2004-2005) and Joan McGilton (2006-2011).

GOVERNMENT SERVICE

CITY HALL.....	241-4647
E-Mail burien@burienwa.gov	
Website: www.burienwa.gov	
City Hall North: 11846 Des Moines Memorial Dr.	
Community Center.....	988-3700
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	
Planning Division	248-5510
Building Division	248-5520
Code Enforcement.....	248-5507
CITY ATTORNEY	248-5531
CITY COUNCIL	241-4647
Brian Bennett, Mayor	
Lucy Krakowiak, Deputy Mayor	
Jack Block, Councilmember	
Rose Clark, Councilmember	
Bob Edgar, Councilmember	
Joan McGilton, Councilmember	
Gerald Robison, Councilmember	
CITY JOB LINE	248-5534
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE	248-5508
FINANCE	241-4647
FIRE DEPARTMENT	
Fire District #2	242-2040
North Highline F.D.	243-0330
HUMAN RESOURCES.....	248-5504
PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES	
Website: www.BurienParks.net	
14700 6 th Ave. SW	988-3700
Moshier Art Center.....	242-7752
POLICE DEPARTMENT	
Precinct #4, 14905 6 th SW	296-3333
PUBLIC WORKS.....	248-5521
24 hr. street or drainage concerns.....	391-1620
SENIOR PROGRAM	
14700 6 th Ave. SW	988-3700
OTHER NUMBERS	
Citizen Complaints	248-5530
Parking Complaints/ Police Tip Hotline	205-0969
ANIMAL CONTROL	812-2737
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	575-1633
DISTRICT COURT (Burien Courthouse)	
601 SW 149 th St.	296-0144
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCATE	
(425) 961-0618 Cell Phone (206) 947-3852	
BURIEN LIBRARY	243-3490
BOULEVARD PARK LIBRARY	242-8662
WHITE CENTER LIBRARY	243-0233
SCHOOL DISTRICT (Highline)	433-0111
SEWER	
SW Suburban Sewer Dist.	244-9575
Midway Sewer	824-4960
Valley View Sewer	242-3236
SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE	
151 SW 156 th Street	243-0289
WATER DISTRICTS	
Water District #20	243-3990
Water District #49	242-8535
Highline Water District	824-0375
Seattle Water	684-5900



City Council Decides to Change Town Square Developers

The Burien City Council voted unanimously Monday, Feb. 25, to direct Harbor Urban, owner of the still undeveloped parcels at Burien Town Square, to sell those parcels to another real estate developer, Legacy Partners, as permitted under the City agreements with Harbor Urban. Legacy wants to complete the multi-family housing-retail project in Burien’s city center and has submitted to the City a redevelopment proposal that calls for a mix of upper-scale multi-family housing and retail.

The remaining undeveloped Town Square property is just north of the current Town Square condominiums and Library/City Hall between SW 152nd and SW 150th streets. The first phase of the Town Square project, the existing condominiums at 6th Avenue SW, was completed in 2009 by owner/developer Urban Partners. When Urban Partners purchased the parcels from the City in 2005, the development agreement required the developer to begin the next phase of the project within two years of completing the first phase, or by July 21, 2011. Urban Partners failed to meet this deadline and still has not commenced construction of Town

Square’s next phase.

On April 30, 2012, the City notified the owner/developer, which had since merged with Harbor Properties to form Harbor Urban, that it had defaulted on its development agreement with the City. The City issued a formal written notice of its intent to repurchase the remaining undeveloped parcels. That repurchase was to occur within 180 days.

After Harbor Urban told the City that it no longer wanted to build the remainder of the project required by the 2005 agreement, the City and owner/developer entered into a “standstill agreement”, which gave Harbor Urban until March 1, 2013, to negotiate with the City an alternate project and amendments to the development agreement for the remaining parcels. Under the standstill agreement, if the City and Harbor Urban did not agree upon an alternate project, the City could repurchase the parcels or direct Harbor Urban to sell them to another developer. Harbor Urban and the City failed to agree on a mutually acceptable alternative project prior to the March 1 deadline, prompting the City Council’s action Feb. 25.

Financial Report Recognized

The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to the City of Burien by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the U.S. and Canada for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and it represents a significant accomplishment by a local government and its management.

The award was presented to Burien Accounting Manager Gary Coleman, who was responsible for preparing the CAFR.

The CAFR was judged by a panel to meet the high standards of the program including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate people to read the CAFR. The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving approximately 17,500 government finance professionals.

Councilmember Krakowiak Elected Deputy Mayor

Councilmember Lucy Krakowiak has been elected by fellow Councilmembers to serve as Deputy Mayor in 2013. The Deputy Mayor represents the City at outside events and celebrations and fills in when the Mayor is absent from meetings or other occasions. First elected in 2003, Krakowiak is serving her third term on the Council. She has lived in Burien since 1988 and runs a local massage therapy business.



Lucy Krakowiak

THINKING ABOUT RUNNING FOR COUNCIL?

*Candidate Filing Dates:
May 13 – May 17*

Four positions on the Burien City Council will be open for election in the November 5, 2013 General Election. The King County Election Division will accept candidate filings for the General Election from May 13 through May 17.

Persons interested in filing for an open position may file with the King County Election Divisions in person, by mail, or online. In-person filing opens May 13 at 8:30 am and closes on May 17 at 4:30 pm at the King County Elections Building, 919 SW Grady Way, Renton, WA ,98057. For more information about candidate filing, please visit the King County website at <http://www.kingcounty.gov/elections.aspx> or call King County Election Operations at (206) 296-1565.

Want to know more about being a councilmember? Check out all of the additional resources available at the Municipal Research Services Center (MRSC), online at www.mrsc.org.

The following positions on the City Council are up for election in fall 2013. Each is for a four-year term beginning January 2014.

POSITION	INCUMBENT
Position 1	Jack Block, Jr.
Position 3	Joan McGilton
Position 5	Rose Clark
Position 7	Brian Bennett

Primary election: Aug. 6, 2013
General election: Nov. 5, 2013

CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS

The Burien City Council adopted the following legislation from December 2012 - March 2013.

ORDINANCES

- Ordinance 576 Amending B&O tax ordinance 482. 12/3/12
- Ordinance 577 Accepting property donations. 2/25/13

RESOLUTIONS

- Resolution 340 Supporting the extension of South County Area Transportation Board Agreement. 3/4/13
- Resolution 341 Authorizing Town Square Alternative Development Agreement. 2/25/13

Happy 20th Birthday, Burien!



On February 28 Burien celebrated its 20th year since it officially became a City. Burien incorporated on February 28, 1993.

Here are some interesting facts about Burien's incorporation:

- A proposal to become a City was presented to voters four times going back to the 1950s but each time they voted the measure down, the last time by a three-to-one margin.
- The Port of Seattle's plans for a third runway at Sea-Tac Airport along with uncontrolled urban growth throughout the region prompted residents to consider incorporation once again.
- A few weeks before the election, the State published a consultant's recommendations for a floating bridge between Vashon Island and Burien, creating a major state highway that would cut through the community.
- On March 10, 1992, residents voted two-to-one in favor of incorporation.
- A primary election on May 19, 1992, narrowed City Council candidates from 22 to 14. On September 15, 1992, the voters selected a seven-member interim City Council and Mayor Arun Jhaveri.



Former Burien Mayors Wing Woo (left), Noel Gibb and Sally Nelson enjoyed cake at the City's birthday celebration on March 4. Nhan Nguyen, City Management Analyst, served the cake.

- More than 1000 people crowded into the Highline High School Cafetorium on Saturday, February 27, 1993, to celebrate the creation of the state's newest municipality...at midnight when Burien officially became a City, they sang "happy birthday" and shared toasts and hugs.
- The state's newest municipality had 27,700 residents. Twenty years later after two major annexations (Manhattan and North Highline), Burien's population stands at about 48,000.
- One of the Council's first actions was to extend moratoriums on apartment development and adult entertainment establishments.
- A temporary City Hall was moved from crowded conditions at Highline Community Center (being leased from King County) to the Monarch Building at 13838 1st Ave S.
- An editorial in the local newspaper just after incorporation (March 3, 1993), acknowledged the community's rich diversity and Burien's promising future:

"Burien must create, invite and support a climate that attracts diverse businesses, economic development and mixed use housing... We must make diversity our centerpiece, prosperity our theme song."

SEAHURST PARK: Seawall Project Waiting on Funding

In the 2013 Washington state legislative session, the Seahurst Park project is projected to receive \$4.42 million in the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) account in the Puget Sound Partnership budget as recommended by former Governor Gregoire, and an additional \$1.28 million in the Puget Sound Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program (ESRP) account in the Department of Fish and Wildlife budget.

The ESRP funding was also recommended by former Governor Gregoire

and the Puget Sound Partnership. If this level of funding is approved in Olympia, the Seahurst project's seawall removal would be fully funded and could proceed this year.

Following the seawall removal and shoreline restoration project, there will still be some additional work to fully restore some of the recreational elements of the park. This work would occur after 2014.

New Fee Structure for Residents, Non-Residents

Beginning with the 2013 winter quarter, Burien Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services (PaRCS) began implementing a new fee structure for program participants living outside the City. This concept follows the traditional "resident" and "non-resident" fee system that has been in place for a number of King County's suburban parks and recreation departments for many years. As a portion of the property taxes City residents pay already contributes to parks and recreation services, the new system establishes an equitable contribution by non-residents. This two-tiered system was successfully implemented for Community Center rentals last August.



(photo by Elissa Ostergaard, Miller-Walker Creeks Steward)
CSI volunteers Jean Spohn and Kristine Feldman measure a dead coho found in Miller Creek before checking inside for eggs to see if the fish spawned.

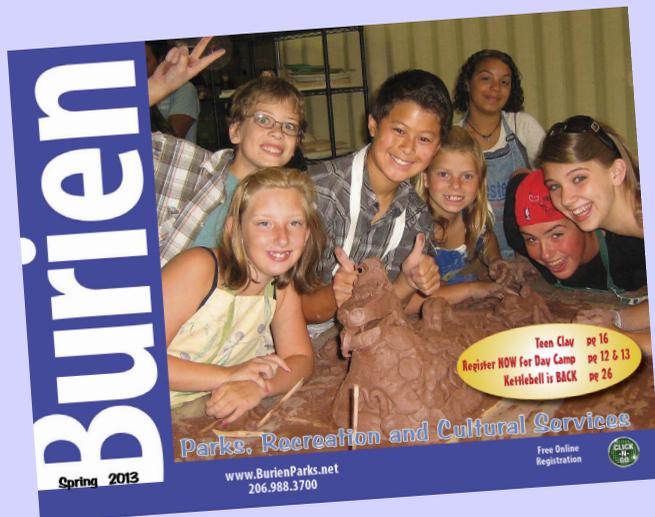
Salmon Findings by Volunteers with CSI: Highline

People wearing bright orange vests and wading boots were a common site along Miller and Walker Creeks last fall. Over 30 hardy volunteers hiked along the creeks, a different pair each day, almost every day from October until Christmas Eve. They counted salmon returning from Puget Sound to spawn, but most importantly, these Community Salmon Investigation (CSI) volunteers cut open dead fish they found to see if they spawned or not. Salmon that die before spawning are reacting to an unknown pollutant in our creeks.

Here is what they found: 545 live adult salmon. Equal numbers of coho and chum were counted in Miller and Walker Creeks, but a lot more coho returned in 2012 than chum. They saw 216 coho in each creek, and 56 chum in Miller Creek, and 57 chum in Walker Creek. Of the 150 dead female coho found, two-thirds died before they spawned.

As we work to clean up the water that flows into the creeks in our neighborhood, we hope to see more fish successfully spawning. Web search for "Miller Walker salmon" to find out more and see how you can participate.

Registration Under Way for Spring Classes



See www.BurienParks.net

■ Burien Parks and Recreation Guides are being mailed only to customers who've registered for a program during the last two years. If you haven't been a program registrant but would still like a mailed copy, call (206) 988-3700.

Soap May Be Cause of Foam in Miller Creek

The source of the piles of foam along Miller Creek is a mystery. Each fall as salmon return to spawn in Miller Creek, volunteers notice foam in the water. While usually only the size of a basketball, sometimes foam piles were four feet high. Foam builds up naturally in creeks - as leaves and other natural materials break down, their components cause foam to build up wherever there is turbulence. But laundry soap, car washing soap, or a mop bucket poured into a storm drain can also cause foam. Natural and soap-caused foam is difficult to tell apart - but natural foam generally smells like dirt, and soapy foam smells like perfume. While natural foam is harmless, soap may kill aquatic life, including fish and the bugs they eat.



Foam piles show up in Miller Creek, which flows through Burien.

Each of us can help:

- Wash cars at commercial car washes or on lawns.
- Pour soapy water down a sink or floor drain, not outside.
- Use a Car Wash Kit, available from your city for car wash fundraisers.

Let's clean up Miller Creek - by keeping soap out of storm drains.

For questions about soap or other pollutants and storm drains, contact Burien's Storm Water Technician at (206) 439-3154.

Over the years, as the foam has come and gone, City workers have been very successful at finding and eliminating sources of soap entering Miller Creek. But then, another foam pile is spotted. While tests done by experts have never detected soaps in the creek near these foam piles, City staff continue to search for soap inputs upstream due to concerns for fish. Keeping soap out of the creeks is easy, once you know that most storm drains flow directly to our streams.

Sign Up for Police Citizens Academy Spring Session

The Police Citizens Academy is a 12-week session offered free in the spring and fall. The Citizens Academy was designed to educate the public about the police department and to increase understanding between citizens and police.



come away with a much better understanding of the criminal justice system and an appreciation for the many challenges facing Law Enforcement in today's society. This understanding will help citizens better assist officers. It will also increase the safety in their neighborhoods and community.

Late enrollees are accepted on a case-by-case basis. Fill out an application and send it to: CSO Nicki Maraulja, 14905 6th Ave. SW, Burien 98166. For more information, please call (206) 296-3333 or go to the Police Citizens Academy page on the City website: www.burienwa.gov/citizensacademy

The program is free for anyone who lives or works in the cities of Burien and SeaTac. The next Citizens Academy training will be held: Wednesdays, March 20 - June 12, 6 - 9 pm, SeaTac City Hall, 4800 S. 188th Street

Graduates of the Citizens Police Academy

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2013

National Night Out is coming Tuesday, Aug. 6. Start planning now for a neighborhood get together and enjoy this National Night Out Against Crime with friends and neighbors. Registrations are being sent out in June. For information e-mail CSO Nicki Maraulja at Nicki.Maraulja@kingcounty.gov.



BUILDING & PLANNING NEWS

Staples Moving From Town Plaza

Staples has been issued a demolition permit for the former Keg Restaurant at 14641 1st Ave. S. Staples, which is moving from its current location in Burien Town Plaza, plans to renovate the former Fashion Bug building and construct a new building at the Keg Restaurant site for a total 15,580 square foot retail store at the site. LA Fitness has applied for a demolition permit for interior work at the former Saars Marketplace at 14905 4th Ave. SW in Burien Town Plaza. LA Fitness plans to open at its Burien location by the end of 2013.

Construction Permit Update

Permits were issued in 2009 for construction of 46 multi-family townhomes at the Miller Creek Junction development located off of South 160th Street just west of SR 509. Due to financial reasons the project was put on hold while a new owner was sought. Miller Creek Court, LLC (new owners) and Westland Associates (general contractor) earlier this year requested the permits be reinstated. Construction of the townhomes is expected to be completed by the end of 2013.

Fred Meyer Construction Permits Issued

Plumbing, mechanical, electrical, and building permits have been issued for a remodel of the Fred Meyer store, 14300 1st Avenue S. In addition to making updates the store will be expanding into previously occupied tenant spaces. The plans for these permits were accepted, reviewed and approved electronically, saving the applicant thousands of dollars in printing costs. It has not been determined when construction will start.

Puget Sound Skills Center

The City has received an Land Use Review application from the Highline School District to allow expansion of their Puget Sound Skills Center campus, 18010 8th Ave. S. Expansion plans include a new two-story, 25,000-square-foot building with health sciences classrooms for 120 additional students and a new 1,800 square foot building housing new boilers and electrical service for the entire campus. The campus expansion is slated for completion in August of 2015.

Dynamic Family Service

A little more than one year after permits were issued, work has been completed and occupancy approved for the Dynamic Family Service Center located at 127 SW 156th St. The new center will provide additional physical, occupational, and speech language therapy; home-based early intervention; specialized education; custom orthotics; and compression garments to local children with special needs.

How Would You Like This Newsletter Delivered: Mail or Electronically?

Beginning with the September 2013 edition, the printed Burien City News newsletter will be mailed only to residents and business who have requested to be on our mailing list. (Printed newsletters currently are sent to all households and businesses in Burien.) An electronic version of the newsletter will be emailed those who request it, or are currently receiving the monthly e-newsletter. The newsletter will also be available on the City website, www.burienwa.gov. Printed newsletters will be available at City Hall, the Community Center and other local outlets.

The City is saving money and helping the environment by cutting back on print publications and mailings, as well as building effective electronic communications.

Sign up for the printed or emailed newsletter on our website: www.burienwa.gov or send in the information below to:
City of Burien Newsletter
400 SW 152nd St Ste. 300
Burien, WA 98166
or
Call 206-241-4647 with your mailing information.

Starting in September, please mail the printed edition of Burien City News to:

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