



SOMERSET SUN

Autumn 2017

Neighborhood news from the Somerset Community Association

Energize Eastside Update

**Welcome New BSD
Superintendent**

**Thinking of an Airbnb?
Think Again.**

Sidewalk Maintenance

**Intergenerational
Buddy Program**

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

www.Somerset98006.org

2017 SOMERSET COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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CENSE Liaison	Steve O'Donnell	sdofour@aol.com

SOMERSET COMMUNITY INTEREST GROUPS

Group	Contact Person	Telephone/Email
50 and Over Singles	Kathy Judkins	(425) 260.4324
Bible Study (non-denominational)	Carrie Myers	(425) 643.6655
Book Club	Becky Mills	(425) 223.6520
Hill 'n Dale Garden Club	Jean Waldeck	(425) 747.6605 HillnDaleGardenClubBellevue@gmail.com
Somerset Moms	Sylvia Vasilik	sylvia.vasilik@gmail.com
Somerset Women for Medic One	Evelyn Bateman	(425) 747.7775
Somerset Woods	Aileen Wu	(206) 890.1717



SOMERSET98006.ORG



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WELCOME TO FALL!

Soon leaves will be changing, vacations will be over, school will be in full swing and crazy summer schedules will return to some semblance of order. As we start getting settled into our routines, I'd like to ask you to consider becoming involved in our community in 2018!

You don't have to be retired to volunteer! (This may be a small misnomer). Many of our current board members work full time and have busy lives with children, grandchildren, clubs, etc. If we each take a **small role**, it lessens the task for each person who commits to helping to keep our special community a desirable and enjoyable place to live.

Open Board/Committee Positions for 2018:

Vice President (Board Position): Monitors the Board's monthly "To Do" list. President's right-hand man/woman.

Treasurer (Board Position): Check mailbox, logs in dues payments, pays bills to vendors.

Secretary (Board Position): Takes attendance and notes at Board meetings and distributes them for approval.

Pride Committee: Working with the CRC Committee, the Volunteer Coordinator and members in our community.

Communications Chair (Board Position)

Ad Coordination and Sales (**small potential commission**)

Resident Spotlight Writer

Content Coordinator Assistant

Event(s) Coordinator: Mainly helping to coordinate the 4th of July Parade and Picnic and any other community events they might like to introduce.

Landscape Co-Chair (Board Position)

Somerset Volunteer Club Participants:

Landscaping

Inter-Generational Buddy Club

Sunshine Club

Neighbors Helping Neighbors Club

I have found being involved in the Somerset Community Association to be very rewarding and educational. *I have learned* more about the history of our community, the CCRS, the organization and what we can and cannot do as an organization. *I have met new friends* that I would have never had the opportunity to meet otherwise. Lastly, *I have gained a huge appreciation for our community, our members and our future.*

I encourage you all to get involved ... you will be happy you did.

~ Tanya Franzen-Garrett, 2017 Somerset Community Association President

SCA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ENERGIZE EASTSIDE NEWS

Final route for PSE power lines threatens Somerset

As you may have read in the Bellevue Reporter, Puget Sound Energy selected the final route for its “Energize Eastside” transmission line project after 3½ years of deliberation. As expected, PSE chose to put the new

CENSE UPDATE

230,000-volt power lines in the existing utility corridor that runs over the west side of Somerset, passing over the Somerset Rec Club.

There are some serious issues with this choice. Besides the transmission lines, the corridor also contains at least one (usually two) half-century old pipelines that transport 13 million gallons of high-pressure jet fuel and gasoline through Eastside neighborhoods each day. Increasing the voltage on the transmission lines is a safety hazard for the pipelines. One of the pipelines passes less than 200 feet from Tyee Middle School. If a breach of the pipeline were to happen anywhere on the Eastside, it would devastate property and endanger lives. The Bellevue Fire Department does not have the equipment or expertise to extinguish a pipeline fire. Instead, a special team would bring fire-fighting foam from SeaTac airport, delaying response to the accident.

The height of the poles is another problem. PSE claims the new poles will be “20 or 30 feet” higher than the existing poles. This is shorter than PSE initially proposed. However, these reduced-height poles pose a greater threat to the health and safety of Somerset residents below. The dual steel poles would still tower over houses and trees in the neighborhood and would be visible for miles around. The beauty of Somerset would be diminished and property values would be reduced. Our neighborhood has never seen a threat on this scale.

Is there reason to hope?

PSE faces many obstacles to build this project, and CENSE has engaged an attorney and a team of experts to build the legal record that will be reviewed by city councils and possibly the courts.

Here are a few of the issues we will focus on:

Process – The final comment period for public feedback on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) closed a few weeks before PSE announced the final route. The public was never given a chance to comment on the final route or specific details, such as where the poles would be placed or which trees would be removed. CENSE will request a Supplemental EIS to allow public comment on the final, fully-specified project.

Environment – The state Dept. of Ecology determined that PSE’s route crosses a major river, 3 major streams, 7 named streams, 37 unnamed tributaries, and 153 wetlands of various categories. To proceed, PSE must obtain a jurisdictional determination from the US Army Corps of Engineers. Then the company must submit a wetland impact form to the Dept. of Ecology and file a mitigation plan for any unavoidable impacts. These are significant steps that will take time to complete.

Safety – There have been two accidents in recent years where PSE’s fallen power lines caused significant damage to the Olympic Pipelines. In both cases, the entire 400-mile pipeline had to be shut down while repairs were made. If the voltage is doubled, as PSE proposes, the risk of a pipeline breach increases in these scenarios. PSE has not offered any plan to mitigate this risk.

Alternatives – Many cities are installing batteries to improve reliability and reduce carbon emissions by storing renewable energy for later use. PSE’s own data shows batteries would be significantly cheaper than upgrading the transmission lines. Batteries would provide better year-round reliability, more effective use of wind and solar power, and reduced risk of pipeline fires near homes and schools with thousands of children. If batteries were purchased from our own local manufacturers, this investment would support local jobs and help build our clean energy economy.

Batteries are a win for residents, a win for businesses, a win for the local economy, and a win for the environment. So why isn’t PSE pursuing batteries? Because transmission lines will be more profitable for PSE’s investors. However, PSE must prove to state regulators that they are investing ratepayer dollars wisely. CENSE is helping residents, politicians, and regulators understand what the wise choices are.

CENSE has become an important part of this debate. Your donations help CENSE achieve the future our children will be proud of. For more information, go to CENSE.org

Luxury Service, Every Price Point

Somerset Real Estate Market continues to hold strong even through "Summer Slowdown".

The Northwest Multiple Service reported in July that the typical "Summer Slowdown" hit earlier than usual this year. While that trend has also hit the Somerset market, we must keep it in perspective ... we are still much stronger than most of the market!

Current Homes for Sale: Average **17 days** on Market

Pending Homes: Average **11 days** on Market

Homes Sold over last 6 months:

Average **6 days** on Market

(Statistics as of August 7th)

Dedicated to our Community

- ◆ Full Time Realtor - 10 years
- ◆ Somerset Resident - 15 years
- ◆ PTSA Volunteer (various positions) - 10 years
- ◆ Somerset Comm. Assoc. Volunteer - 3 years
- ◆ Bellevue Breakfast Rotary Club Member - 5 years

I love being involved in this community, and I would be thrilled to help you reach your Real Estate Goals.

Please call for a free consultation.

Your Local Somerset Resource



PENDING



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD

THE SOUND
PROPERTIES
TEAM

Marketplace

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Tanya Franzen-Garrett

206.226.3723

Tanya@sound-properties.com

EASTGATE PLAZA UPDATE

Eastgate Plaza is getting a facelift! A spokesman from Regency Centers said that the property management company is upgrading the parking lot, replacing/improving the landscaping and giving an entirely new "look" to the storefronts. Albertson's is doing its own remodel, and plans to complete work this fall. All of the improvements are expected to be finished in time for

the holidays, and will be a welcome change for Somerset residents. At the time of this writing there were three vacancies, but a representative noted that they expect to have these filled "very soon" with new retailers. No hints about who we might look forward to but we are excited to see Eastgate's new look!

WHO MAINTAINS THE SIDEWALK STRIPS?

Recently members of the Somerset Community Association contacted the City of Bellevue regarding maintenance of the sidewalk strips along Highland Drive. Residents were concerned that the turf strips in the right-of-way were looking unkempt and wanted to know what

SOMERSET PRIDE

could be done about it. Some of the questions raised

were: Who is responsible for maintaining the areas between sidewalk and street? Who maintains the area behind the sidewalk?

We thought it would be helpful to report elements of Bellevue City Code, so that the community can better understand their responsibilities for maintaining planting strips and other vegetated areas in the right-of-way that abuts private property. While the City of Bellevue does maintain a small percentage of rights-of-way as landscaped beds, these areas are usually along major arterial roads, often associated with large Transportation improvement projects.

With the exception of the medians on Highland Drive, all planter strips bordering the sidewalk and vegetated areas behind the sidewalk, are residential in nature, and are the responsibility of the adjacent property owner. The responsibility includes maintenance of the planter strip next to the sidewalk, where it abuts private property. In some cases, the planter strip may be bordering a backyard, or be outside of a property fence line.

Regarding landscaping and vegetation in the right-of-way, the following City Code considerations are important for property owners to understand (see BCC 14.06.110):

- Property owners are responsible for maintaining all landscape materials in the right-of-way to industry standards (see section 8.3, "General Standards"). BCC 14.06.100 and BCC 14.60.120
- Property owners are responsible for ensuring that landscaping fronting their property does not obstruct driver or pedestrian sight distance as described in the Transportation Department Design Manual. BCC 14.60.240

- Illegal clearing, cutting, damaging, topping, pruning that is not in accordance with industry standards, or removing of street trees is a civil violation and subject to monetary penalties. BCCs 1.18.045, 3.43.335, and 14.60.040
- Trees and landscaping along street frontages may be required to be retained and maintained even if these amenities are on private property. BCC 14.60.110 and 14.60.120; LUC 20.20.520 and 20.25.060
- All work in the right-of-way is subject to Right-of-Way Use Permits and/or Clearing and Grading Permits. To learn more about the permitting needs for your project, call Service First at (425) 452-6800.

Merryn Hearn, Streetscape Inspection Technician

mhearn@bellevuewa.gov

ann pierson

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STEPHANIE KRISTEN

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Commitment to Community

I have always believed in the importance of giving back to our community. Enriching the neighborhoods in which we live and work is an integral part of how we do business. Supporting these programs is just one more way of caring for and improving the lives of those around us.

Bellevue Schools Foundation supports students in need across the district and provides programs that make our schools some of the top in the nation.



Windermere is excited to be the Official Real Estate Company of the Seattle Seahawks. But I'm even more proud of how this partnership is being used to help homeless youth in our community. Windermere has a long history of helping low-income and homeless families through the **Windermere Foundation**, which since 1989 has donated over than \$30 million to programs and organizations that provide shelter, food, children's programs, and emergency services to those in need. Every time I sell a home, a portion of my commission goes toward this important cause. And now, for every Seahawks home game tackle, the Windermere Foundation will donate \$100 to YouthCare, which provides much-needed services to homeless youth. Join us in supporting the **#TackleHomelessness** campaign!

For more information on additional causes I actively support please check out my website SheKnowsRealEstate.com on my "about me" page.



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SCA COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

Greetings Neighbors! Welcome to another issue of your community newsletter.

This spring, I invited everyone to submit a news story, essay, artwork, high-resolution photography, and even a favorite family recipe. The response was underwhelming, so ... I'm going to put out another call for submissions, but this time with a theme. It's an easy one: What makes Somerset home for you, in other words, what do you like about living "on the hill"? Is it your neighbors? Your view? The safe streets for walking and running? The beautiful

SCA NEWS

trees and landscaping? The high-quality schools? The easy access to freeways and transportation centers? Something completely different? Please share your thoughts.

Please send your story for this topic, or anything else that's on your mind, to me at mdavis3@uw.edu by November 3, 2017. Don't be shy – your story doesn't have to be long or professionally written. It will be fun to read the different perspectives that help

us define what makes our community the wonderful place it is.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and have fun settling into your fall routines.

Melissa Katherine Davis

SCA Communications Chair



Your Somerset neighbor helping Clients achieve their real estate dreams for the last 17+ years
Call Jane for a private consultation to maximize results in this competitive market.
Jane represented these Bellevue Buyer Clients purchase their homes, successfully competing against multiple offers!



*Buyer Representation in Eastgate
4070 149th Ave SE Bellevue
SOLD by Jane!*



*Buyer Representation in Enatai
10616 Woodhaven Lane Bellevue
SOLD by Jane!*



*Buyer Representation in Somerset
14315 SE 49th Street Bellevue
SOLD by Jane!*



*Buyer Representation in Enatai
2520 103rd Ave SE Bellevue
SOLD by Jane!*



Jane Kim realty

206-293-5263

www.janekimrealty.com

janekimrealty@gmail.com

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ASSOCIATES, INC.**

THINKING ABOUT AIRBNB? THINK AGAIN.

Recently the CRC has received some questions relating to whether homes in the Somerset neighborhood can be used as Airbnb (or similar) rentals. (Airbnb is an online marketplace and hospitality service which acts as a broker for people to lease or rent short term lodging.) The short answer is no.

Here's the background. When the Covenants were constructed, the developers attempted to include rules that would enable the Somerset neighborhoods to remain residential and to protect the property owners' rights to the enjoyment and use of their properties. The operation of businesses in the Somerset neighborhoods would greatly change the look and feel of the area, as well as affect aesthetics and traffic patterns. Therefore, the Covenants include language which specifically states that property owners shall at no time conduct any trade or business of any description on their residential property in Somerset. (You can find viewable copies of the Covenants which apply to your property on our website at www.somerset98006.org.) Airbnb is a type of transient lodging (defined as rentals of fewer than 30 days) known as a Bed & Breakfast (an owner-occupied dwelling which temporarily houses guests for profit). While the City of Bellevue does allow residential homeowners to operate a Bed & Breakfast, it requires them to obtain a Home Occupation Permit and Business License in order to do so (City of Bellevue, Developmental Services Handout # L-39). This requirement supports the Somerset CRC position that

the operation of an Airbnb would qualify as a "business" and is not allowed under the Somerset Covenants.

In quite a few cases the Somerset Covenants are more stringent than the City of Bellevue Code

COVENANT CORNER

requirements. If the Somerset Covenants and City of Bellevue Codes conflict on a similar topic, the stricter code of the two overrides the lesser code. Operating an Airbnb (or any unlicensed business) in Somerset would therefore be against both the Covenants and the City of Bellevue Code. While this sort of business can be a source of income in other neighborhoods which have no Covenants, Somerset does not allow it. This article is intended to inform homeowners in our community so they do not incur any expenses in attempting to operate an Airbnb or similar service.

Diane Fern, Chair

Covenant Review Committee

For readers that do not have covenants and live in the City of Bellevue, contact the City and find out what review/permitting process you must go through to stay within Bellevue Code requirements for these transient lodging businesses. Additional references which might be helpful include:

- (1) The Land Use Review desk in the Permit Center at Bellevue City Hall (450 110th Ave NE), (425) 452-4188 or landusereview@bellevuewa.gov,
- (2) Ordinance No. 6223 (www.bellevuewa.gov/Ordinances/Ord-6223_room_rentals.pdf), and
- (3) Land Use Codes 20.20.700 (Rooming Houses), 20.50.020 (family), 20.50.046 (single housekeeping unit), 20.50.012 (Bed and Breakfast and Boarding House), and 20.30N (Home Occupation Permit).

WELCOME TO THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR!

We will soon usher in another academic school year full of opportunities and possibilities for our kids.

I would like to introduce the community to our new Bellevue School District (BSD) Superintendent, Dr. Ivan Duran, who comes to us from the Dallas Independent

SCHOOL BOARD

School District where he served as Deputy Superintendent. Prior to



Dr. Ivan Duran

Dallas, he served as Assistant Superintendent for Denver Public Schools in Colorado. Dr. Duran holds a Doctorate in Education Leadership and Policy Study from the University of Denver, a Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from

the University of Colorado, and a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education.

Dr. Duran is an avid runner, cyclist, fisherman, and cook. He and his wife, Kelly, share a passion for promoting equity in education, exploring the great outdoors, and keeping up with their resident canine Gracie. During his 90 day entry plan, Dr. Duran will meet with community leaders, stakeholders, schools and educators to learn about the opportunities and challenges in our district. We are excited to welcome him to Bellevue!

BSD is projected to serve more than 20,000 students this academic year. The first day of school is August 31st, and the school year ends June 22nd (unless we have another winter like last year!). The BSD 2017-2018 calendar can be found online: www.bsd405.org/wp-content/pdf/calendar/2017-18-calendar.pdf?x18687.

Schools on schedule to be rebuilt this year are: Stevenson ES, Highland MS, and Clyde Hill ES. The brand new Wilburton ES is on schedule to open its doors in 2018. To get more information on BSD capital projects, please check out this link www.bsd405.org/about/news/.

Many of us are aware that the Washington State Legislature passes an operating budget which includes public schools funding. The recent budget has both positive and negative impacts on how the Bellevue School District can serve its students. The BSD Board of Directors is closely monitoring these impacts as they develop.

In Bellevue, we are fortunate to have the support of the local business community and non-profit organizations such as the Bellevue Schools Foundation, Eastside Pathways, Jubilee Reach, PTSA's, and others. Additionally, Bellevue taxpayers believe that our future and our kids' futures rest upon providing excellent educational opportunities so they reliably support investing in programs serving each and every student in the District.

As one of five Board Directors, I am fully committed to excellent District governance through policy setting, ensuring public engagement in the process to uphold transparency, and to supporting professional development for our educators. However, parallel to our local endeavors, we must continue to engage in advocacy at the State level by sharing BSD's experiences and the successful stories of our educators and students so that State Legislators make informed decisions when it comes to our kids' education here in Bellevue.

My digital door is always open; please feel free to contact me at thaim@bsd405.org or on Facebook @mylinh4education. If you are looking for ways to get involved or support our local schools, please visit www.bsd405.org/get-involved/ or reach out to our wonderful school principals and PTSA leaders. Wishing our students and parents a safe and positive start to the new school year!

My-Linh Thai is a Bellevue School District Board of Director who resides in Somerset with her husband, Don, and their two children who attend Bellevue public schools.

SOMERSET WOMEN FOR MEDIC 1 INVITES NEW MEMBERS

Somerset Women for Medic 1 was founded by a group of Somerset neighborhood women in 1974 to support the newly formed Bellevue Fire Department Medic 1. This 501 (c)(3) non-profit continues to support Medic 1, handling public and private donations and memorials sent to Bellevue Medic 1. We also host fundraisers and private events.

100% of donations received are tax deductible, and wholly dedicated to support CPR classes, medical training, and supplies that directly benefit Bellevue Fire Department's Medic 1 services.

King County first responders have the best save rate in the USA, and possibly in the world.

Donations provide support to Bellevue Medic 1, and currently are at an all-time low. Your donation to Bellevue Medic 1 will provide support and will be greatly appreciated.

Your tax-deductible donations may be mailed to:

Somerset Women for Medic 1
c/o Bellevue Fire Department
P.O. Box 90012
Bellevue, WA 98009-9012

We eagerly welcome new members from Somerset and surrounding areas. For information call Evelyn Bateman, (425) 747-7775.



BABYSITTERS IN SOMERSET

For safety reasons, please do not distribute this list beyond our community. Thank you.

Name	Grad Year	Phone
Baylee Bartels	2018	(425) 518.9839
Cooper Brandli	2022	(425) 766.8736
Maddi Brooks	2018	(425) 802.2412
Lailey Khatibloo	2018	(425) 372.8731
Simone Ray	2014	(425) 652.5216
Erin Stepka	2015	(206) 693.9429

2017 ADVERTISING RATES AND DUE DATES

Rates

Business Card (3"w x 2"h): \$25 First listing free!
Quarter Page (4"w x 5¹/₄"h): \$140
Half Page Vertical (4"w x 10¹/₂"h): \$300
Half Page Horizontal (8"w x 5¹/₄"h): \$450
Full Page (8"w x 10¹/₂"h): \$550
A 10% discount is available for Somerset residents.

2017 Deadlines

February 3, 2017 – Spring/March SUN
May 5, 2017 – Summer/June SUN
August 5, 2017 – Autumn/September SUN
November 3, 2017 – Winter/December SUN

Thank you for your interest in advertising in the Somerset Sun. Together, we are neighbors helping neighbors.

TRAFFIC SURVEY

The City of Bellevue Neighborhood Transportation Safety Services is developing a traffic improvement strategy for the area around Tye Middle School and the Eastgate neighborhood and would like to hear your opinions and concerns. Please fill out the online survey at surveymonkey.com/r/TyeandEastgate.



4th of July



Maya Keselman has community spirit. Without being asked, she has shown up and helped on the food time for the past 3 years. Thank you and see you next year!

Happy Independence Day to the Somerset Community. It takes a lot of people to put on the 4th of July parade and picnic. Nearly all of these volunteers have helped with this event since it began 11 years ago. Many thanks to the following:

- Gary Albert
- Christy Alford
- Michael Alford
- Natalie Alford
- Tammy Alford
- Tom Campbell
- Kenn Gennari
- Kevin Hardy
- Maya Keselman
- Jerry Magnani
- Joe Magnani
- Patricia Magnani
- Maggie Malley
- Emilliano Rivas
- Jennifer Robertson
- Scott Robertson
- Madeleine Shetzline



Congratulations to these 3 winners of "show your spirit" at the 4th of July event. Contact Tammy at (206)795-5924 to receive your prize.



INTER-GENERATIONAL BUDDY PROGRAM

As presented in our last issue of the June SUN, the Somerset Community Association has introduced a few new volunteer clubs which we encourage our community members to become a part of. The purpose of these clubs is to enhance our sense of community and to live up to our motto of “Neighbors helping Neighbors”. These clubs are in their infancy, and yet we have found some success already which we would like to share.

I’d like to introduce you to Carol and Jordyn. Carol is a longtime Somerset Resident and Jordyn will be starting her sophomore year at Newport High School this fall. They met during the **Somerset Volunteer Committee “Earth Day”** project last April while weeding along Highland Drive.

As they started chatting, Carol asked Jordyn how old she was, what grade she was in, what she was studying, what her hobbies were, etc. During their discussion, Jordyn explained to Carol that she was ultimately interested in going to University of California Berkeley to study Chemistry and Business Entrepreneurship. As it turns out, Carol graduated from UC Berkeley! Carol shared stories of her time at the University in the 1960s, as there were demonstrations in relation to the Free Speech Movement (FSM). She related that they were challenging times requiring the presence of the National Guard. Carol went on to graduate from UC Berkeley in 1966 and then did her fifth year, medical technology training, at UC San Francisco. This campus, that included two hospitals, is right on the edge of the Haight-Ashbury district which had its own challenges.

Another coincidence, Carol’s career was in Microbiology! “I was so excited to hear that she was a woman scientist, especially from a time when that was probably not the norm. She is like a pioneer, I can’t wait to hear more stories about her experience in school and work. I’m sure I will learn a lot, and get some good insight.” Jordyn stated.

Carol and Jordyn now have set a designated time to get together each month for 1-2 hours at a time. What will they do? Get to know each other and help each other with little things. Maybe they just have iced tea and trade stories, maybe Jordyn helps Carol weed her garden or helps with a few household chores or aids in some computer work. Carol has already indicated that she is excited to come and see Jordyn play on the Newport Softball Team when the season starts next spring. Recently while Carol was out of town visiting her family, Jordyn watered her plants and garden, saving them from the extreme heat.

This is exactly what the intent of this club is all about. Connecting community. Helping to create mutually beneficial relationships what would not otherwise happen organically. Teaching our youth, the importance of “in person” social networking. Giving each generation an outside perspective.

This also correlates with our Emergency preparedness agenda, if there is a snowstorm, power outage, earthquake, etc., both

SPOTLIGHT ON CLUBS



Carol and Jordyn know they can reach out to each other as a close local resource and check up on one another.

If you would like to be a part of this Club, we will happily aid in finding a match for you. If you know of someone on your block or your street that could benefit from this club (who couldn’t really?) please refer them on! You can get involved by either:

Going to our web site at somerset98006.org/get-involved or email our volunteer Coordinator Margaret Yeh: yehmargaret@gmail.com

TEENS EARN
COMMUNITY SERVICE
HOURS AS A BONUS!

FUN TIMES AT THE REC CLUB, AND FORGING AHEAD FOR THE FUTURE

Our members enjoyed a gorgeous, sunny summer poolside at the Somerset Recreation Club. Our children learned how to swim and improve their swimming strokes and tennis game. They had fun competing in our

SOMERSET RECREATION

Somerset Stingrays Swim Team, with 42 swimmers

competing at A Champs, and breaking three pool records this past season. We had a fantastic turnout all summer for our adult-only swim times offered three times weekly in the morning hours.

Somerset Stingrays Swim Team members competing an away swim meet. Go Stingrays!



Junior Girls Prelims

The Club also partnered with Shannon Woods, a world-class swimmer and owner of Woodswim (woodswim.com), to provide our kids with an exceptional opportunity to benefit from Shannon's highly technical stroke coaching and specifically designed race plans. The Club is hoping to continue to partner with Woodswim in the future.

Social offerings included pizza and Bingo nights, outdoor movies, Parents' Night Out, Wine-Tasting, and, of course, our always memorable annual Dinner and Auction Event where we enjoyed a beautiful evening on the deck socializing and bidding on fantastic items to raise funds for the Club.

We are thrilled to announce the Club raised a whopping \$29,189.50 at this year's Auction. Of this total, about \$13,000 was specifically donated during the Raise the Paddle portion for a new clubhouse roof. **Thank you – we couldn't have done it without the support of our generous community!**

The SRC Board of Directors recently convened a Renovation Subcommittee to explore possible renovation concepts for the Club, including the feasibility of financial and fundraising efforts to make a renovation project possible. In anticipation of this effort, the Club applied and was approved as an IRS 501(c)(3) public charity.



Relay Team

A big thank you to our returning swim team coaches: Head Coach Erica Johnson and Assistant Coaches Nina Dipboye and William Delbrueck. They provided high quality instruction, motivation, and support to our swimmers who practiced daily to set new records and personal best times. Our pre-competition Sharkies swimmers (ages 5-7) grew by leaps and bounds, both in the number of kids who participated and in the swimming skills they acquired over the seven-week season. Our Tennis Coach, Meridith Barry, coached our tennis team and offered private lessons and six weeks of group lessons.

As a 501(c)(3), charitable donations to SRC are allowed as tax deductions by the IRS, and this makes SRC eligible to receive additional matching funds for donations made by individuals working for various employers in the area. SRC may also be eligible for matching funds for volunteering time by some employers in this area (Microsoft and other companies offer this type of employee matching program).

The Somerset Recreation Club will greatly benefit from matching funds for donations and volunteer activities, and will apply these generous contributions toward operational costs and planned renovations. Please consider this if your employer offers this benefit!

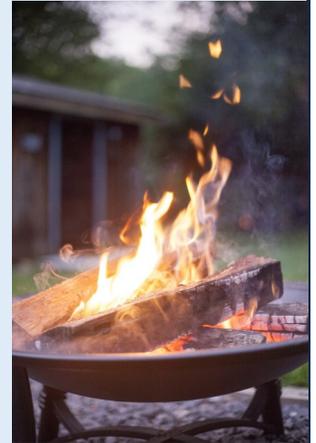
All are invited to attend the **Rec Club's Annual General Meeting on Thursday, November 9th, from 7-9 PM, in the Ackerley Room at Forest Ridge School**. Current, former and future members, and everyone from the community interested in preserving the future of the Rec Club are welcome!

The 2017 season at the Rec Club comes to an end when Labor Day arrives in September and children return to school. We will open our doors for the 2018 season the first week of May, so be sure to join us at our Open House on Opening Day to see friends and learn how you can be a part of our Somerset summer family. For more information about the Club, visit somersetrec.org. See you next summer at the pool!

**Somerset Rec Club
Annual General Meeting
November 9, 2017
7:00 – 9:00 PM
Ackerley Room of
Forest Ridge School**

A SUMMERTIME CONSIDERATION

Many Somerset homes were built with electric heat and no A/C or central ducting, including mine. It gets really hot in the afternoon and into the evening hours, so my family and I tend to leave the windows and doors open. When the sun goes down, the temperatures cool off and usually there is a breeze that blows the hot air out of our house. If you walk up my street, you can see many homes that do not have A/C and they too have their windows and doors open at night to cool off. But then, just as that happens, someone upwind from us starts a fire in their fire pit. Suddenly the air smells like a camp fire and the smoke enters our homes. We are forced to close our windows and doors.



We could turn on our portable A/C units, but our family would prefer not to. The air temperature is cool outside, which makes it an unnecessary and wasteful use of energy, hitting the electricity bill, and not to mention the environmental impact.

I understand that people want to enjoy their fire pits, but I would submit that given our unique hill neighborhood, with all of us in such close proximity to one another, that the smoke affects many homes. I would like to kindly ask to please consider the neighbors. If it's been a hot day, our houses will be hot. One family will enjoy a fire pit, but many others will not enjoy the smoke from that one fire.

Also, many of us enjoy walking our streets. I like to bring a disposable glove and small garbage bag to collect trash as I'm walking. If you are so inclined, would you consider picking up trash on our streets with me?

Thanks!

Jane Kim



Somerset Community Association
PO Box 40531
Bellevue, WA 98015

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In Somerset, we thank our Emergency Preparedness / SPAN teams and block watch groups who work hard to encourage neighbors to stay informed and be prepared, safer and more connected. We hope that you will continue to enhance and update your family's and neighborhood preparedness plans and supplies. Several block groups have hosted their annual picnics, potlucks and BBQs. We thank everyone for their leadership and engagement and hope that block groups continue to engage and get together throughout the year.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The SCA also would like to thank the Somerset Recreation Club for increasing awareness for preparedness during its Open House in May as well as including a SCA preparedness kit in its silent auction as part of its fundraising efforts.

SCA supports neighborhood preparedness. We encourage residents to learn the basics on preparedness to build self-reliance, be empowered and think about how to help one

another especially when first responders may be delayed and unable to respond to the community's needs when a regional disaster occurs. September is preparedness month. We hope you will take some steps -- even a little bit can go a long way. The Bellevue Fire Department has just recently revamped their web site and the Office of Emergency Management has lots of good information at this link: fire.bellevuewa.gov/emergency-management/preparedness-information.

For more information or if you want ideas to engage your block watch group, Girl Scout, Boy Scout, mom's group or neighborhood group, please contact: Angela Cheung at avcheung@msn.com or Sean Cox at sean.ozel.cox@gmail.com. Don't forget to ask about how to get \$100 reimbursement for preparedness and building community on your block and/or \$100 to help build community preparedness supplies for your block.

Thank you for taking the time and steps to make yourself and our community safer and stronger.

Best regards,
SCA Preparedness

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH