



Romero says goodbye

Council will welcome three new members

The resignation of Troy Romero and the November election results will put three new faces on the City Council this January.

Nancy Whitten and Mark Cross, both winners in the Nov. 4 election, will be sworn in Jan. 6. At press time, it was unclear how soon Romero's replacement, to be appointed by the council, will take office. State law requires the appointment to be made within 90 days of the resignation, which Romero announced on Nov. 4. In a third contest, incumbent Michele Petitti defeated challenger Will Sadler.

"The city staff and I look forward to working with the new council members," City Manager Ben Yazici said. "They have some exciting challenges ahead."

The council will take on those challenges without Romero, who last month lost a family home to the California wildfires. His family members, who escaped unharmed, had been living near San Diego for the past year or so while Romero

handled a legal practice that required his presence in southern California.

In his Nov. 4 resignation remarks, Romero said it's been tough to split his professional work between two states and handle his council responsibilities at the same time. Even before the fire, Romero said he had



Communications Manager Tim Larson and Information Systems Coordinator Matt Micono stand in front of the city's new "broadcast center."

City launches "lean" TV operation

As they channel surf in the days ahead, Sammamish residents will soon come across a new offering on their TV dials: **"Sammamish 21 TV."**

The city channel, provided by the cable company as part of its franchise agreement with the city, will initially feature informational videos and an electronic bulletin board.

"We're just starting out," City Manager Ben Yazici said, "but we're excited to have this additional tool to provide our residents with information about the city."

A small, green shed along 228th Avenue, at the future site of the new City Hall, is evidence of the channel's modest beginnings.

"We bought our broadcast center at Home Depot," Yazici laughed. "People who like lean government will love Sammamish 21 TV."

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Mayor Ken Kilroy

When Troy Romero announced his resignation from the City Council on Nov. 4, it provoked many kind words from his council colleagues and city staff.

With good reason.

From 1999, when he took his seat with the original council, to now, Troy has been a terrific public servant.

He's smart, knowledgeable, and full of energy – all important qualities. But more than that, he

has a knack for debating tough questions without alienating those who hold a different point of view.

That's a rare quality, and one of the main reasons he served two consecutive terms as mayor. We needed him to corral the council's energy and take it in a positive direction.

Troy – before, during and after his tenure as Mayor – is one of the main reasons this council has successfully overseen the beginnings of a dramatic transformation in Sammamish. When tough decisions needed to be made, when disagreements needed to be resolved, Troy was always there – with an idea, a conciliatory gesture or a joke sharp enough to nudge us toward consensus.

With his help, the city has accomplished a lot in the past four years.

Our main arterial, 228th Avenue, is almost complete. We're designing new parks and renovating old ones. The \$300 million infrastructure deficit we inherited from King County is steadily being reduced. On average, our annual investment in capital projects is ten times higher than what we experienced under county governance.

About a year ago, though, when Troy's law firm required him to spend part of each week in California, he offered to resign. We talked him out of it.

Unfortunately, the recent wildfires in California took the decision out of our hands. When his family's property near San Diego burned down, our colleague decided his wife and children needed his full attention.

He departs with a legacy anyone would be proud of – new roads, new parks, lower taxes, efficient city government and the establishment of a great community.

He also leaves with our best wishes, and sincere gratitude for a job well done.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kenneth Q. Larson".

City TV - continued from page 1

At press time, the exact start date for the channel was unclear, pending the delivery of equipment.

"As soon as some delayed equipment arrives, we should be able to hook things up and light up our channel in November sometime," Yazici said.

Prior to the debut of Sammamish 21 TV, city residents were provided with Issaquah's city programming.

"Initially, there will be quite a difference," Yazici said. "We're in our infancy. We won't be in a position to air our city council meetings for some time yet."

The TV operation will be run by Communications Manager Tim Larson and Information Systems Coordinator Matt Micono.

"Tim spent 20 years working in local television news as a reporter and producer," Yazici said. "He's really enjoyed finding ways to make this work without spending an extra penny.

"Our initial investment, including the shed from Home depot, is \$16,000."

The informational tapes, which will repeat frequently, include a short introduction to the city and a video on Sammamish Police services. Three music concerts, taped this summer at Pine Lake Park, will also air.

Those will be supplemented with videos from other local, regional and state government entities. Between tapes, an electronic bulletin board will pop up and provide additional community information. (For more information on TV, see the Q & A on the next page).

Council - continued from page 1

planned to resign in the near future.

"Troy will be missed," Yazici said. "He is one of the most dedicated, energetic and resourceful public servants I've ever known.

"He loves Sammamish, his heart's in the right place, and he's always tried to do the right thing for this community."

Whitten, an attorney who has lived on the Sammamish Plateau for more than 20 years, defeated Karen Moran in the race for Position 4 on the council.

Cross, a Sammamish Plateau resident for 16 years, defeated Mike Rundle for Position 6 on the council. Cross works as a senior planner in Snohomish County.

Whitten and Cross will take the seats now held by Ron Haworth and Ken Kilroy, both of whom decided not to run for re-election.

Q
&
A

With Communications Manager Tim Larson

Q: What is Sammamish 21 TV going to look like?

A: Ultimately, it will look a lot like the city channels in Issaquah and Redmond.

When our new City Hall is up and running in early 2005, we plan to install the same kind of robotic cameras they've installed in their council chambers.

So – we'll have city council meetings live and on tape, recorded informational videos, the electronic bulletin board and a variety of other offerings.

Q: What will it look like at the outset?

A: I'm afraid we're going to make C-SPAN look pretty exciting. We'll be repeating a lot of videos and putting up electronic bulletin board info between tapes.

Q: How valuable is a city TV channel that airs council meetings and other related material?

A: Extremely valuable, I think.

When residents watch their elected representatives struggle with complex issues, they're less likely to think there are simple answers, and less likely to be cynical about government.

During the council's public comment period, the channel will also be a great platform for residents of all persuasions who want to voice their point of view.

Q: Is this the kind of channel where anyone can have a show?

A: No, this won't be one of those total access channels featuring, shall we say, highly unusual programs.

Sammamish 21 TV will have policies similar to those in Issaquah and Redmond, which means most of the material will be directly related to city business.

Q: City Manager Ben Yazici says this launch is only costing \$16,000. Tell us about that.

A: Well, it's a happy ending to a serious Catch-22 situation we found ourselves in.



Our current City Hall doesn't have any Comcast fiber, and we didn't want to dig a trench through the Safeway parking lot to reach it.

Our future City Hall site, on the other hand, does have some fiber nearby – but unfortunately, we don't have a City Hall there yet.

We went round and round, talking to Comcast, King County, the library,

the fire department – looking for a place to plug in our playback equipment.

But all those options were going to cost a lot of money for encoders, decoders and other gizmos we wouldn't need if we could just plug in at our new City Hall site.

Q: So you built an instant City Hall?

A: Right. We bought a small shed at Home Depot, placed it right next to the Comcast fiber access point and installed a couple of playback machines.

We've got a 24-hour alarm system, an \$85 dollar air conditioner and a \$35 heater. We're ready to go.

Q: Who created the informational videos about Sammamish?

A: We produced a 30-minute police services video with the help of Rick Johnson, the head of Skyline High School's video program.

They taped our interview with Chief Baranzini in the school studio and helped us with editing as well. That's a production partnership we hope to build on as time goes by.

Another video, sort of an "Introduction to Sammamish," I shot for myself using one of these new, inexpensive "prosumer" cameras.

They're amazing. You used to need a \$30,000 camera and a professional photographer to get pictures this good.

As we produce additional videos for the community, that little camera is going to save the city a lot of money.

Skyline High School Homecoming Parade

On Oct. 24, Skyline High School held its first homecoming parade along 228th Avenue.

The inaugural march, which ran from Discovery Elementary to Skyline High School, was a prelude to that night's Homecoming football victory over Cedarcrest High School.



Trail, Ebright appeals on the horizon



East Lake Sammamish Trail near SE 33rd Street.



Ebright Creek Park property looking to the west.

The appeal of Ebright Creek Park and the continuing litigation over the East Lake Sammamish Trail will take center stage in the next few weeks.

The trail appeal, in Snohomish County Superior Court, will get underway on Dec. 4. King County is appealing Hearing Examiner John Galt's decision to throw out a permit issued by the city of Sammamish. That permit, granted in April 2002, allowed the county to build the trail entirely on an old Burlington Northern rail bed.

Galt ruled in favor of trailside residents who argued that the city and the county should have given more consideration to alternative routes with less environmental impact.



The Ebright Creek Park appeal is also expected to be heard in the near future, but, at press time, a specific date had not yet been set.

That appeal, filed by two residents, one representing the Friends of Pine Lake, states that the city's proposed 12-acre park will damage the environment and produce too much noise and traffic. This appeal will also be heard by Hearing Examiner John Galt.

The park design calls for paths, picnic facilities, play areas and a combination baseball/soccer field for youth. A creek viewing platform, wetland boardwalk, parking lot and restroom are also part of the design.

Mudslide closes Snake Hill for nine days

Heavy rains, combined with the failure of a temporary sediment pond, triggered a heavy mudslide across 212th Way (Snake Hill) on Oct. 20.

Although work crews quickly cleared the road of debris and replaced 400 feet of damaged guardrail, Snake Hill remained closed for nine days.

That's how long it took for geotechnical engineers to assess slope damage,

design a repair plan and complete the repair work.

As drivers wind their way down Snake Hill, they will now see a small retaining wall on the upslope side of the road. Above the wall, the damaged slope has been stabilized by a broad swath of rock.

Snake Hill reopened on Oct. 29.



The force of the mudslide damaged 400 feet of guard rail and completely blocked both lanes of 212th Way SE (Snake Hill) on Oct. 20



“Instrumental” work recognized

Lola Nelson-Mills, Executive Assistant to the City Manager, and Jodee Bass, Financial Specialist, are honored for their “instrumental” work on the city’s award-winning budget presentation for 2003-2004.

Mayor Ken Kilroy, right, presents the certificates of achievement from the Washington Finance Officers Association as Lyman Howard, the city’s finance director, looks on.

Planning Commission gets to work

The city’s inaugural Planning Commission met for the third time on Nov. 6. So far, commission members have created a set of by-laws and spent time studying the newly adopted comprehensive plan.

At press time, the commission had not yet named a chairperson to head up the group’s work. That task was complicated by the fact that two of the appointed commissioners were also up for City Council seats during the Nov. 4 election.

The commission is developing a long list of study items, including sub-area planning, rezoning and development regulations.

Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month, beginning at 7:30 p.m., at the Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District, 1510 228th Avenue SE. If you have questions about the commission or would like more information, please contact Darci Donovan at 425-836-7938.

Invitation to steal

Open garage door burglaries continue to create a problem for both the Police Department and the citizens of Sammamish.

During the summer of 2003 there were a total of 47 burglaries in the City. Twenty-two of those were garage burglaries that occurred because of open garage doors or unlocked side doors.

This means that 46% of all summer burglaries committed in the City were classified as “non-forced.”

“The frustrating part is that these crimes are very easy to prevent,” Police Chief Dick Baranzini said. “All we have to do is lock the doors at night.”

By locking doors and garages at night, Sammamish residents can eliminate the easy targets that draw criminals to the community, Baranzini said.

“Most of the suspects arrested for these burglaries are from outside of town,” Baranzini said.

Chief Baranzini has some simple recommendations:

- **Do not leave garage doors open at night.** Bad guys like to take tools, golf clubs and portable generators. They also steal money, keys, sunglasses and any other items they can find in vehicles parked in the garage.
- **Do not leave garage door openers in a vehicle parked on the street.**

Bad guys break into the car, use the garage door opener to get into the garage, and take what they can find.

- **Lock your side doors, even if they are behind a fence.**

Wooden fences in our neighborhoods are really designed to keep things in, such as dogs and kids. They

will not stop bad guys from coming in your yard; in fact, they provide a very good hiding place.

- **Use your exterior lighting at night.** Electricity is still cheap enough to use as a basic crime deterrent. Do not, however, leave exterior lights on during the day. This sends a message that residents are away.



Open garage doors make a community very attractive to criminals, Police Chief Richard Baranzini warns.

Municipal code now on line

The city's municipal code is now available on the city's website at: www.ci.sammamish.wa.us.

The municipal code is a codification of all the city's existing ordinances into one document, with the wording edited to enhance clarity and eliminate conflicts and inconsistencies.

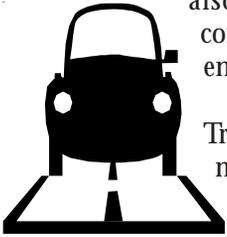
The municipal code was adopted by the City Council on Oct. 7, with an effective date of Oct. 16.

Residents without access to the website may view the municipal code at City Hall, 486 228th Avenue NE, during normal business hours. The code is also available at the Sammamish Library, 825 228th Avenue NE.

Copies of the code may be purchased directly from the Code Publishing Company. They can be reached a 206-527-6831.

Project updates:

SE 24th Street sidewalk: Construction has begun on the bike lane and sidewalk improvements along the northern side of SE 24th Street between 238th Avenue SE and 244th Avenue SE. Retaining walls, drainage facilities and landscaping will also be part of this project. Substantial completion of this project is expected by the end of November.



Sammamish Park and Ride: Sound Transit is doing the final design work on this new park and ride facility at the southwest corner of 228th Avenue SE and Issaquah-Pine Lake Road. Construction is expected to start in early 2005.

244th Avenue – SE 8th Street to NE 8th Street: Preliminary engineering and environmental documentation phase of this project will start early next year.

Roundabout/Issaquah-Pine Lake Road: Construction is slated to begin next summer. Completion is expected in September 2004.

228th Avenue: Substantial completion of this landmark project is now expected by late November.

As paving, curb and gutter work continues, the shopping center driveways just south of NE Eighth Street will remain open except for temporary closures required for driveway reconstruction.

For information about the work along 228th, please call Shahram Pourazari, the city's project manager, at 425-836-7909.



Asiya Khaki, current Youth Board chair, entertains two of her young guests at last year's "holiday event."

Sammamish Youth Board sponsors holiday event

Want to give your holiday spirit a boost?

Then come to the Sammamish Highlands Shopping Center on Dec. 6 to sing carols, decorate a gingerbread house and share your blessings at the Giving Tree.

It's all part of the Sammamish Youth Board's annual holiday event, once again positioned directly in front of the Starbucks by the Safeway store.

All donated food items will be prepared and served by Youth Board members to homeless Seattle youth.

The festivities, free and open to the public, begin at 10 a.m.



New retaining walls along 228th feature a "rock fascia" surface, a treatment that makes concrete look more like a natural rock formation.

Bank of America thanked for the "Summer Nights at the Park"

The Bank of America received a big "thank you" from Mayor Ken Kilroy last month for co-sponsoring this year's summer concert series at Pine Lake Park.

Kilroy, on the left, presented a plaque to David Cornick, Manager of the bank's Pine Lake branch, and Shih-Kai Lo, the branch's Customer Service Manager.

In addition to seven music concerts, the summer entertainment series also featured two nights of Shakespeare and two outdoor movie nights.



License required for door-to-door sales

If you have concerns about a door-to-door sales person, you may want to ask for a look at their business license.

Since Dec. 3, 2002, when the City Council passed an ordinance requiring business licenses, door-to-door sales people have been required to carry their license, or a copy of their license, with them.

It is a misdemeanor when any person engages in business within the city limits without a business license. Second offenses are gross misdemeanors.

Please report any unlicensed merchants to the city of Sammamish at 425-898-0660. After regular business hours, please call police dispatch at 206-296-3311.



CITY HALL CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

Tuesday, November 4

- Public Works Committee, 5:30 pm
Sammamish City Hall, 486 - 228th Ave. NE
- Community Dvmnt. Committee, 6:00 pm
Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer Dist.
- City Council Regular Meeting, 7:30 pm
Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer Dist.

Wednesday, November 5

- Basin Planning Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Beaver Lake Lodge, 25201 SE 24th Street

Thursday, November 6

- Planning Commission, 7:30 pm
Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer Dist.

Tuesday, November 18

- Finance Committee, 6:00 pm
Sammamish City Hall, 486 - 228th Ave. NE
- City Council Regular Meeting, 7:30 pm
Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer Dist.

Wednesday, November 19

- Comp Plan Celebration Dinner, 6:00 pm
Honoring: PAB, Council, Involved Staff
Sahalee Country Club
- Arts Commission, 7:00 pm
Bellewood - 3710 Providence Point Drive SE

Thursday, November 20

- Sammamish Youth Board, 6:00 pm
Sammamish Library, 825 - 228th Ave. NE

Monday, November 24

- Parks & Rec Commission, 6:30 pm
Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer Dist.

Tuesday, November 25

- City Council Study Session, 7:30 pm
Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer Dist.

DECEMBER

Tuesday, December 2

- Public Works Committee, 5:30 pm
Sammamish City Hall, 486 - 228th Ave. NE
- City Council Regular Meeting, 7:30 pm
Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer Dist.

Tuesday, December 2

- City Council Study Session, 7:30 pm
Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer Dist.

Wednesday, December 3

- Volunteer Recognition Dinner, 6:00 pm
Honoring: Art Commission, Planning Commission, Parks & Recreation Board, and the Sammamish Youth Board
Beaver Lake Lodge, 25201 SE 24th Street

Thursday, December 4

- Planning Commission, 7:30 pm
Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer Dist.

Wednesday, December 17

- Arts Commission, 7:00 pm
Bellewood, 3710 Providence Point Drive SE

Thursday, December 18

- Sammamish Youth Board, 6:00 pm
Sammamish Library, 825 - 228th Ave. NE

Monday, December 22

- Parks & Rec Commission, 6:30 pm
Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer Dist.



*Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District:
1510 - 228th Avenue SE, Sammamish, WA*

SAMMAMISH CITY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



Ken Kilroy
Mayor



Ron Haworth
Deputy Mayor



Jack Barry
Councilmember



Don Gerend
Councilmember



Kathleen Huckabay
Councilmember



Michele Petitti
Councilmember



Troy Romero
Councilmember

OCTOBER

The Council held a public hearing and adopted the first Sammamish Municipal Code. This document is a compilation of all the existing ordinances, plus the interim development code. No significant changes were made during this process.

The purpose of codification is to make the regulations of the City more accessible to the public. It is now possible to view and search the municipal code on-line by going to the City's website at: www.sammamish.wa.us.

Hard copies of the code will be available for viewing at City Hall and the Library before the end of November. If you would like to purchase your own copy, you may do so by contacting Code Publishing at (206) 527-6831.

Mayor Kenneth J. Kilroy presented representatives of the Bank of America with a certificate of appreciation for their generous financial support for the summer concerts at Pine Lake Park.

The City Council proclaimed the month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Applicants for the remaining vacant position on the Arts Commission appeared before the council in October. The selection of successful candidates will take place at a future

meeting. These are volunteer positions on the newly created commission.

Regulations governing development and concurrency were studied at a work session. Ordinances will be considered at following meetings.

COUNCIL VACANCY

The Sammamish City Council is seeking applicants to fill a recent vacancy on the City Council. You must be a resident of the City, a citizen of the United States, a registered voter and at least 18 years old. The appointed person will serve until the end of 2005.

Anyone interested in this position should submit a letter of interest, a resume and any other pertinent information to:

City of Sammamish
Attn: City Clerk
486 228th Avenue NE
Sammamish WA 98074



The deadline for submitting application is November 18, 5:00 pm. If you need further information, call (425) 836-7904.

City of Sammamish Offices

486 228th Avenue NE, Sammamish, WA 98074
Phone: 425-898-0660 • Fax: 425-898-0669

www.ci.sammamish.wa.us

Ken Kilroy, Mayor
kkilroy@ci.sammamish.wa.us
Ron Haworth, Deputy Mayor
rhaworth@ci.sammamish.wa.us
Jack Barry, Councilmember
jbarry@ci.sammamish.wa.us
Don Gerend, Councilmember
dgerend@ci.sammamish.wa.us
Kathleen Huckabay, Councilmember
khuckabay@ci.sammamish.wa.us
Michele Petitti, Councilmember
mpetitti@ci.sammamish.wa.us
Troy Romero, Councilmember
tromero@ci.sammamish.wa.us

Ben Yazici.....City Manager
Pete Butkus.....Admin. Services Director/ACM*
John Cunningham.....Public Works Director/ACM*
Ray Gilmore....Community Development Director
Lyman Howard.....Financial Services Director
Jeff Watling.....Parks & Recreation Manager
Tim Larson.....Communications Manager
Bruce Disend.....City Attorney
Melonie Anderson.....City Clerk
Richard Baranzini.....Police Chief
John Murphy.....Fire Chief

* Assistant City Manager



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