

Community Beautification Projects Underway

Three community groups have been working on projects to beautify Kingston. The Kingston Revitalization Association has hung 120 flower baskets on all of the lampposts in town. The baskets, which are planted by David and Gail Halsaver of Foxglove Nursery, are watered daily by a group of volunteers. Watch for them as they travel around town on "the gator".

The Downtown Kingston Association received an Aloha Wright grant from the Kingston Garden Club to enhance the planting strips along West Kingston Road. Topsoil was donated by Emu Topsoil and spread by McClain Landscaping. Then Savage Plants provided plants, *rubus calycinoides* ground cover, at cost. The *rubus* is a drought tolerant insect- and pest- resistant ornamental member of the raspberry family. *Rubus* is a vigorous grower that will need to be pruned eventually, and it is resistant to foot traffic. L & L Landscaping planted 28 flats of the *rubus* and volunteers from the Downtown Kingston Association are keeping the plants watered until the roots are established.

The third project is the redevelopment of the planting strip on West Kingston Road that runs from Snippers Barber shop to West First Street. Funded by the Kingston Stakeholders, and designed by landscape architect Laurie Larson of The Larson Casteel Company, the planting strips will create rain gardens that will block weeds while enhancing the landscape. The Washington Thorn trees that were previously planted in this area were removed. The Thorn trees are not a suitable street tree, since



they grow thorns over an inch long, which can injure walkers and cyclists. Four native serviceberry trees, a more suitable street tree, were planted in the tree wells. The tree wells prevent tree roots from damaging the sidewalks. Soon pervious concrete will be poured in a wavelike design that weaves ribbons of concrete with river and beach rock cobblestone. The design was inspired by Kingston's beaches and life by the water, but is a very sustainable solution to the many weeds that spring up in the planting strips around town.

The Stakeholders view this as a pilot project and hope to attract donors who will help fund the revamping of other planting strips in town. Anyone interested in working on any of these three projects, please contact the Chamber Office.

NORTH KITSAP FIRE & RESCUE Offers Contest to Lead the 4th of July Parade

by Michèle Laboda, Community Services Specialist

Your family can win two seats aboard our flagship fire engine as it leads Kingston's famous Fourth of July Parade — by simply pledging to refrain from buying or using fireworks. Every household that makes the pledge will be entered into a drawing to be held on July 3rd at Tiny Town. One lucky family's entry will be drawn. And, they'll receive more than seats on the engine; they'll also get a prime parking space downtown as well as reserved space and some delicious free refreshments at one of the best parade-viewing locations — the deck at the Filling Station. Entry forms are available at the NKFR Station and at the Kingston Chamber of Commerce Office. Enter by e-mailing an entry form to laboda@nkfr.org, by faxing it to (360)297-2653 or by dropping it off at one of NKFR's staffed fire stations.



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Kingston Concerts on the Cove



Live music will highlight Saturday evenings when Kingston Concerts on the Cove comes to Mike Wallace Park at the Port of Kingston. The free Saturday night concerts will be a festive addition to Kingston community life, since Tunes on Tuesday will no longer be held.

The Downtown Kingston Association and the Port of Kingston are sponsoring Kingston Concerts on the Cove. Various community organizations and businesses have stepped forward to help fund the concerts, but more fundraising is still needed. To donate funds for the concerts, contact Deb Boardman at 360-731-9619 or debboardman@windermere.com. The concerts will run from 7:00 to 9:00 each Saturday evening, and feature a variety of music.

- August 2 – House of Cards– Sponsored by Kingston Kiwanis and Wetter Family L.L.C.
- August 9 – United States Navy Band – Sponsored by Community Donations
- August 16 – Foggy Bottom Jazz Band – Sponsored by Kingston Stakeholders
- August 23 – Blues Counselors – Sponsored by Kingston Rotary Club
- August 30 – Steel Drum Band –Sponsored by donations to the Downtown Kingston Assoc.

The Kingston Rotary club will operate a Beer and Wine Garden on concert nights from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Proceeds from this event are part of the SPARKS fundraiser, Schools and Parks A Round Kingston. Food vendors available for the first four concerts are Mike's Four Star BBQ, Island Jamz, the Smokin Riata, and the Hot Dog Guys. The August 30 concert wraps up the concert series and features a steel drum band. The Downtown Kingston Association along with Mike's Four Star BBQ is offering a special buffet barbecue dinner as a fundraiser. The dinner includes spare ribs, BBQ Beef Brisket, Carolina style pulled pork, BBQ chicken, cole slaw, BBQ beans, garden salad, roasted garlic mashed potatoes, corn on the cob and potato rolls.

The cost of tickets for the barbecue is \$25.00 for adults and \$12.00 for children. Tickets will be available at the Chamber Office, Windemere Real Estate, American Marine Bank, John L. Scott Real Estate and the Port of Kingston Office.



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Kingston Harbor Days Festival

July 31 – August 2

Kingston will be celebrating life by the water with a 3-day festival slated for July 31 through August 2. Paddle Kitsap, the Port of Kingston, and the Downtown Kingston Association are planning the Festival.

Paddlers in the Paddle Kitsap event will begin arriving in Kingston on Thursday evening to register for the event and attend an evening Paddlers' Meeting. For more information on Paddle Kitsap, go to www.PaddleKitsap.com or call 360-697-6095. The Downtown Kingston Association is planning some entertainment and activities to welcome the kayakers on Thursday evening. The events will be held at Mike Wallace Park in the Port of Kinston. Community residents are encouraged to come down to the Port and participate in the festivities. The Kingston Rotary Club will be hosting a Beer and Wine Garden from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Proceeds from this event are part of the SPARKS fundraiser, Schools and Parks A Round Kingston. Barbecue dinners will be available for purchase from Mike's Four Star BBQ. Residents and kayakers can enjoy food and drink while they listen to the music of the Happy Daze Band from 7:00 to 9:00 PM.



The kayakers will depart Kingston after breakfast on Friday morning and begin their paddle at Port Gamble. After various rest stops along the way, they will begin to arrive back at the Port of Kingston for the Friday evening festivities. The Rotary Beer and Wine Garden will be open while the Julie Holt Band and the Crazy Family Band entertain with music. The Poulosbo and Kingston Kiwanis will be providing dinner for the kayakers. After a Saturday morning breakfast in Kingston and a visit to the Kingston Farmer's Market, kayakers will leave on the final day of their paddle. However the festivities continue in Kingston as the kick off begins for the Kingston Concerts on the Cove.

Kingston Concerts on the Cove is a series of five free Saturday night concerts being held in Mike Wallace Park at the Port of Kingston. The first concert is being sponsored by the Kingston Kiwanis and Wetter Family LLC and features the local band, House of Cards. The Rotary Beer and Wine Garden will be open from 6:00 to 9:00 and food will be available for purchase from the food vendors who are part of the Kinston Farmer's Market. So save your appetite for some delicious food from Mike's Four Star BBQ, Island Jamz, the Smokin Riata or the Hot Dog Guys.


To volunteer to help at Paddle Kitsap, contact Debbie Anderson at 297-1711 or DebbieA@americanmarinebank.com.

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