



**Kingsgate 1&2  
On The Internet**

For current neighborhood news, events schedules, Kingsgate Royal Swim Team info and the color version of this newsletter, click over to:

[www.kingsgate1.org](http://www.kingsgate1.org)

Our website also shows you how to sign-up for neighborhood updates via email!



*Dark, frosty winter mornings make school children hard to see. No matter how late you are, please watch your speed. (The speed limit is 25mph.)*

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As we head into another hectic holiday season, your Kingsgate 1&2 Board of Trustees wishes you many things for which to be thankful. Here's hoping you can make time to slow down now and then to enjoy your family and friends.

## Totem Lake / Kingsgate News

On Oct. 18th the City of Kirkland ratified a preliminary agreement with DDR for an extreme makeover of Totem Lake Mall. The City is offering \$15M in improvements and compensation, and is leaning on DDR to design a mixed-use development (residential and retail) with public spaces, instead of just retail. To see the latest artist conceptions, click over to the City website: [www.ci.kirkland.wa.us](http://www.ci.kirkland.wa.us).

The City website also has a link to annexation updates, but there aren't any

as yet. A joint City/County public meeting, similar to the one held last year at Big Finn Hill JHS, may be in the offing for spring, after the legislative session, and the election, are over.

In other news, the mini-casino next to Sno-King Hockey's Bingo Hall is appealing the denial of their liquor license. Their appeal to the Liquor Control Board is set for **Jan 31- Feb 5**. Meanwhile, the Gambling Commission will consider their gambling license in a public hearing on **Nov 17**.

## Holiday Lights Walk

For those of you new to the neighborhood, every year the Homeowners Association sponsors a holiday decorating contest with **cash prizes** for first, second and third place. Judging is based on originality, theme, creativity, and/or overall presentation. Recent winners are disqualified to give others a chance.

**If you would like to help select this year's winners**, join us on our Holiday Lights Walk on **Saturday Dec 17th**. We will meet at **6:30pm** at the **Pool** and canvass the entire neighborhood, rain or shine. There will be several pit stops along the way for warm beverages and ... other needs. It will be a fun evening for young and old alike.

## Annual Meeting: Feb 13th

Our Annual Meeting will be **Monday, Feb 13th**, at **7PM** at **Our Redeemer Church**, which is located on the corner of 116th Ave NE and NE 140th St. The annual meeting is a great way to meet your neighbors and find out

what's going in our Association. We review budgets, facility improvement plans, and provide an open forum for you to raise issues. There are several vacancies on the Board: Get involved! Help make and keep Kingsgate great.

## President's Message

By Skip Felts, Association President

Once again, in my annual message I am able to point to some very significant achievements during the past year. And once again, this is owing to the efforts of many hardworking individuals. The improvements made this year are less visible than the fabulous playground that was accomplished in 2004, but they are nonetheless vital to the operation of your pool and park facilities.

The most significant achievement during 2005 was the installation of a new boiler to heat the pool. The investigation to determine which boiler to purchase was an extensive effort, spearheaded by Dwight Yoder. Dwight's efforts resulted in dramatic cost savings, and even a rebate from Puget Sound Energy due to reduced gas consumption. This reduction in consumption also helps offset the ever-rising cost of natural gas.

The Board of Trustees continues to pursue an aggressive maintenance plan for existing facilities. The Board believes that this commitment maximizes the benefit that the community receives from its facilities, and reduces long-term costs. Concurrently with this, and in response to a mandate received from the homeowners attending last year's annual meeting, funds are being accumulated for the replacement of the failing edge stones around the pool, and the installation of a new surface for the pool deck. The Board believes we are on track to accomplish these improvements in 2007.

The Association benefited greatly again this year from the continuing efforts of Board members who have served many terms. However, Siobhan Fitzgerald, having served with distinction as Activities Director, has retired from the Board. The community events coordinated by Siobhan have brought many good times to hundreds of people. She will leave some big (but fun) shoes to fill. And unfortunately, I must again report that a Board member whose primary role would be to focus on covenant issues is still very much needed.

So I must say again, it is time for those who have not yet served on the Board, or have not done so for a number of years, to come forward and give their efforts to the neighborhood. The time commitment is really not that great, but the rewards are tangible and beneficial in many ways. I very much hope you will seriously consider this heartfelt request. None of what the Association provides to this neighborhood happens by itself. New energy is needed; please give it some thought. I'd love to talk with you about it at the Annual Meeting, which will be held on February 13<sup>th</sup> at Our Redeemer Church.

I hope everyone can find the time to attend. The input of homeowners at the Annual Meeting provides significant guidance to the Board for the upcoming year. Our property values continue to rise, and Kingsgate I&II is still a great place for kids, but the lasting quality of our neighborhood is not assured. It is dependent on the commitment of those who freely give their time and effort to maintain it. To all who have served on the Board, or volunteered to assist with neighborhood activities, you have my continuing thanks and sincere respect.

## Editorial: Save Our Tall Trees!

By Roger Clarke-Johnson

Not much of a tree-hugger under normal circumstances, I must admit to being dismayed and saddened by the number of tall trees that have been felled during the summer and fall. It's happening everywhere in Kingsgate. Why do homeowners prefer to remove one of the great natural amenities they possess? Is it a hatred for shade, a wacky fashion statement ("We'll carve a bear in the stump!"), or just free-lance loggers preying upon the fears of ignorant homeowners. Whatever the cause, it is a blight upon our neighborhood. If they prefer a barren landscape, with a few dwarf trees and small shrubs, they could simply move into one of the many new developments springing up all over. You know the drill: someone sells an acre of land, the developer clears all the trees and vegetation and erects 12 glistening new tract houses, ten feet apart. Granted, our poky little 1960's houses are no competition for a three-story, jetted-bathtub, Internet-ready home "attractively priced" from the mid-500's, but our lots have something they don't: majestic, 100-foot-tall trees.

So, if some earnest-sounding men come to your door offering to cut down and haul away your 'dangerous' tree for little or no cost to you, please think twice. If you believe your tree is diseased or damaged, and are worried it might fall down, get a second opinion from someone who doesn't cut down trees for a living. They're called Arborists, and they're in the Yellow Pages, about a 850 pages before Tree Service (Removal).

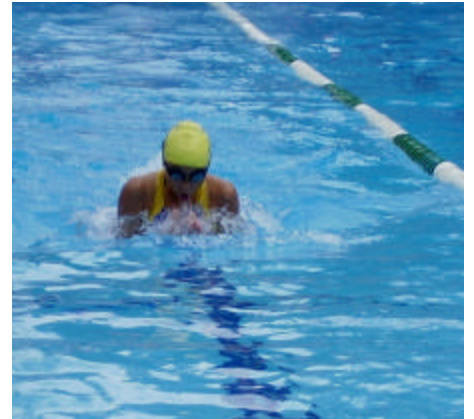
### Sound off!

Submit your comments to:  
Box 512, Kirkland, WA 98083

## *Kingsgate Royals Rule!*

*By Deanna Crow, Royals Swim Team Manager*

The Kingsgate Royals had a fantastic season this year. We won all but one of our Midlakes Division Meets, and placed second in the Division Champs! The Royals sent 40 swimmers to the Midlakes A Prelims and 38 of them went on to the Finals. For 18 Royals swimmers, this was their very first competitive swimming experience. If you have never considered the swim team for your kids or grandkids, we want to encourage you to consider it for next season. Sign-up information will be posted in March of 2006 on the KG1&2 website: [www.kingsgate1.org](http://www.kingsgate1.org) Look for the Swim Team link on the left side. All of us on the Royals Swim Team would like to thank the kids and parents for their hard work, and the Board for their support of our neighborhood swim team. We hope you choose to join the team next spring!



## *Lifeguard Updates*

*By Dwight Yoder, Pool Director*

I am so thankful to have the privilege to work with such a wonderful group of young people who serve as our lifeguard staff at our pool. Not only do they conduct themselves with maturity and professionalism at the pool, they demonstrate those qualities in their personal and educational pursuits. Here is a brief description of what they will be involved in during the coming year:

**Katie King:** Katie is enrolled at Northwest University in Kirkland, with plans to obtain her degree this winter in History. Katie will be involved in home tutoring this spring and plans to return as Pool Manager next season.

**Chris Winslow:** Chris is a senior at Juanita High School and a member of the football and soccer teams. Chris also participates in a program at Redmond HS for college credit, studying criminal justice.

**Julie Marpert:** Julie is a senior at Juanita High School. Julie is a team captain for the Rebels Swim Team and an avid lacrosse player.

**Jennifer Egan:** Jen will be entering her junior year at Western Washington University. This will be her first full year in Bellingham and she is looking to double-major in Elementary Education and Geography.

**Emily Pierson:** Like Katie, Emily is also a student at Northwest University, where she both studies and lives on campus. After classes, she spends her nights serving in Student Ministries at Overlake Christian Church, working as a swim instructor at the Pro Sports Club, and working as a server at Anthony's Homeport in Kirkland.

**Becca Brinson:** Becca graduated from the University of Washington this past spring in English. She is now looking for a full-time career while working as a tutor in the North Seattle Community College Writing Center.

**Kevin King:** Kevin is attending the Christ Church Academy in Kirkland. Along with his studies, he looks forward to his first year of being a football referee for the NCAA High School football program. On top of that, he is hoping to play baseball for the North Bothell team.

**Zach Payne:** This is Zach's senior year in high school and he is excited about graduating next spring! Zach will be participating in the Fire Explorers program this year with the Redmond Fire Department, and is interested in pursuing firefighting as a career.

**Morgan Gilbert:** This fall Morgan will be participating in the Masters Commission at Christ Church in Kirkland. This very intensive program includes a mentorship and a missions program during the summer, which will, unfortunately, prevent her from lifeguarding next year.

**Heidi Naish:** Heidi has enrolled as a freshman at Bellevue Community College. While attending school, she will continue to teach swim lessons and lifeguard at the Bellevue Aquatic Center as well as the Juanita High Pool.

**Andrew McDermott:** Andrew attends Christ Church Academy as a Junior. He works at Pro Sports Club as a lifeguard and will be traveling to Italy in May with his school classmates.

# Kingsgate Day 2005

By Dwight Yoder and Roger Clarke-Johnson

July 9th was a beautiful, warm, sunny day, perfect for our annual neighborhood celebration. The theme for this year's Kingsgate Day was Hawaiian, and residents were encouraged to spend the day enjoying the pool and park while flaunting their most outrageous flowered shirts and muumuu's.

In the morning, Skip Felts and son Jackson served up 50 hot dogs in 20 minutes, a new record for lunch. Hawaiian relish was a featured condiment, in case you're wondering how this food item fit in our theme.

The kids' favorite Bounce House was back, along with a new Bounce Dragon, both set up on the south lawn of the Pool/Park area. In the late afternoon, Katie King was Mistress of Ceremonies for fun pool games and competitions. Great job, Katie!

Dinner consisted of two huge honey-baked hams, Hawaiian fried rice, fresh salads, watermelon, and desserts. Wine and beer were offered for a dollar a cup; soft drinks were free. The warmth of the day and sheer number of revelers required several runs to the grocery store for more provisions. When the sliced ham ran low, we got buns and made ham sandwiches for late arrivals.

The evening's entertainment was provided DJ Gaylen Sauve, who once again wowed the crowd with his wit and humor, jumpin' music, and pool-deck dance lessons. Kids especially loved the limbo competition, conga line, and the Macarena.

We hope to continue to have events like this centered around the pool during the summer months to bring the community closer together, but alas, our Activities Director position is now vacant. Events like this don't happen by themselves, and without an Activities Director, they won't happen at all. Do you like to have fun? Do you have a knack for organizing big parties? If so, please let us know by sending an email to [president@kingsgate1.org](mailto:president@kingsgate1.org) or dropping us a note via snail mail. Everyone will thank you for it next summer!

Speaking of thanks, here's a big ol' Kingsgate 1&2 pat on the back to all those involved in the planning and execution of this event, including: Patti Winslow, Katie King, Dwight and Melanie Yoder, Jeff Trautmann, Skip Felts, Roger Clarke-Johnson, and of course, Siobhan Fitzgerald, our outgoing (figuratively and literally) Activities Director. No doubt there were others who pitched in with planning, set-up, serving and/or clean-up. Thank you, even if your humble correspondents forgot to write down your names.

What will Kingsgate Day 2006 be like? You decide.



**Energy Tip:** Heating bills will be higher this winter.

Seal up air leaks around windows and doors now, before winter winds blow.

For more energy-saving tips, click over to Puget Sound

Energy's website:

[www.pse.com](http://www.pse.com)

## Character

What you say or do when nobody is looking.



*Raking is free exercise!  
Remember to prune bushes,  
shrubs and trees away from  
sidewalks and utility meters.*

### Happiness

Happiness is a  
direction, not a  
destination.

### Courage

Courage is not the  
lack of fear, it is  
doing the right  
thing in spite of  
your fears.

## Remembrances of Kingsgate Past

By Roger Clarke-Johnson

Some of the best things about our neighborhood are ... our neighbors! While many of us have lived here just a few years, some have lived in Kingsgate 1&2 since its inception. I am lucky to have Frank and Grace Polito as my neighbors. The other day they proudly announced they were starting their 40th year as Kingsgate residents! I asked them to share some of their memories.

The Politos moved up from Southern California in 1966, and on Oct 1st they moved into their brand new "Lady Marie" on 116th Ave NE. Back then, houses ranged in price from \$18K—\$26K, a princely sum.

Lovely shrubs and a wooden fence lined the approach to Kingsgate 1& 2, up the 116th hill. At the top of the hill, there was a faux guard post with a full-sized sentry on the right, and a lighted Kingsgate sign on the left corner, across the street.

The cul-de-sac on NE 134th St held the model homes (that's why none of the homes are the same!) and the hillside that now features a church was covered by native trees and blackberry bushes.

The original homeowners were an active bunch: 41 homeowners along

116th Ave NE got together and chipped in to buy 100 flowering dwarf cherry and apple trees, which were planted on either side of the road. It must have been quite a sight in springtime! Only a few of these remain. Can you find them?

Frank and Grace raised two sons and two daughters in their house, and now look forward to visits by their five grandchildren. They stay active with workouts at the Bothell Senior Center and walks through the neighborhood.

**For Your Child's Sake**  
*see* **Kingsgate**

The Planned Community that includes  
this Complete Family Space Age Park  
*walk to . . . .*

1. Complete Little League Fields
2. Olympic Size Heated Swimming Pool
3. Children's Wading Area
4. Separate Pre-School Recreation Area
5. Separate Elementary School Recreation Area
6. Basketball Courts
7. Barbecue and Picnic Area

*Nestled Among Tall Native Trees  
With A Western Exposure!*

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\$18,000 to \$24,800  
Minimum FHA & Conventional



## A Glimpse of the Future

By Roger Clarke-Johnson

On October 16th, I ventured south of 132nd Street to see what life in Kirkland might be like. Tucked away in a meeting room within the Evergreen Hospital complex was the monthly meeting of the Totem Lake Neighborhood Association (TLNA).

The TLNA is one of many neighborhood associations actively supported by Kirkland's "Neighborhood Connections" program. At the meeting they were planning how to spend \$50,000 in grant money to add amenities to public areas in their neighborhood. Since there are no Kirkland parks in the area,

the TLNA is working closely with Evergreen Hospital to find a suitable location for the addition of a landscaped public area with tables, Benches, and other amenities.

In the spirit of neighborliness, the TTLA invites all Kingsgate residents to attend their meetings and join their association. If anyone wants a glimpse of what it would like to be a neighborhood within the City of Kirkland, this is a great way to do it. To learn more, visit their website: [www.totemlakeneighborhood.org](http://www.totemlakeneighborhood.org) You can contact Lynda Haneman (Secretary) directly at 206-300-7090, or send her an email: [lyndahaneman@att.net](mailto:lyndahaneman@att.net)

## Kingsgate Highlands (1&2) Homeowners Association: Names & Numbers

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email Address</u>
President	Skip Felts	821-1034	president@kingsgate1.org
Vice-President	<b>Your Name Here!</b>	<i>Interested?</i>	<i>Contact Skip Felts*</i>
Treasurer	Kathy Kimbell	820-4789	treasurer@kingsgate1.org
Secretary	Patty Winslow	821-3066	secretary@kingsgate1.org
Pool Director	Dwight Yoder	821-7782	pool@kingsgate1.org
Swim Team Liaison	Judy Field	821-0523	fieldjudy1@msn.com
Park Director	Jeff & Heather Trautmann	821-7862	jhtrautmann@comcast.net
Communications	Roger Clarke-Johnson	821-8076	news@kingsgate1.org
Activities	<b>Your Name Here!</b>	<i>Interested?</i>	<i>Contact Skip Felts*</i>
Covenants	<b>Your Name Here!</b>	<i>Interested?</i>	<i>Contact Skip Felts*</i>
Members At Large	Lynn Gipson	821-4387	lynnkipson@verizon.net
	Stephanie Taylor	820-0797	mscctaylor@msn.com

### Covenant Corner

Covenants: Everybody benefits from them, but nobody likes them ... unless, of course, a neighbor is in violation. Then, we like covenants and seek their vigorous enforcement. So, what are they really?

Simply put, covenants protect everyone's property values by preventing inappropriate or unsightly land use or activity. Whenever you buy or re-finance a home in our neighborhood, you agree to

them in writing (they are not optional). Renters may not know about them, but are nevertheless bound to them via their landlord.

Enforcement is best done via neighbor-to-neighbor contact. Most people respond favorably when reminded. The Board gets involved when this approach doesn't work. Legal action can result in the case of persistent or egregious violations, but it seldom comes to this. If you want a copy of our Covenants, contact Kathy Kimbell. In January they will be available on-line as part of our new Electronic Homeowner's Guide.

## Pool Safety Is Everyone's Responsibility

By Dwight Yoder, Pool Director

An area of concern this past swim season was the number of "saves" that were required, either by lifeguard staff or a nearby adult, to prevent a swimmer from going under and possibly drowning. In a normal season that may occur once or twice. This year we documented five saves. Whether this is an anomaly or a growing trend, only time will tell. After reviewing the reports of each incident, it appears that a simple warning to parents might help prevent this from becoming a trend.

First and foremost, it is important that your children know their limits in the water. There are varying degrees of comfort and ability amongst children as swimmers. I urge all parents to know and understand what their children's abilities are, and speak with them about the activities they can engage in while using the pool. I also encourage parents to supervise their younger children when in the pool, even if their child is able to stand up with their face above the water line. In many instances, children are swimming or engaging in activity that challenges them to utilize whatever skills they have to remain above the surface. Exhaustion or panic can result in the need for intervention.

Please remember that the lifeguards, though certified and well-trained, should not be the only means relied upon for your child's safety. It only takes a split second for a child to go under water, and you know better than anyone whether your child is in danger. Here are a few suggestions to increase safety and awareness:

1. Know how well your child can swim
2. Give your child limits in the pool, based on their ability
3. Enroll your child in a swim class to improve swimming ability and confidence
4. Never allow younger children in the main pool without your direct and constant supervision

I can't emphasize the last point strongly enough: It's not enough just to be at the pool with your children. Parents and guardians need to observe their children at all times. If you have any concerns regarding the pool staff, or its operation, please contact me. We strive for a safe and friendly environment.