

N O R T H N E I G H B O R H O O D C H A T T E R

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Handling Shopping Center Traffic

By Greg Bolin

As most everyone is well aware, The Landing shopping center is very quickly becoming a reality.

The city's groundbreaking on utility and infrastructure improvements is expected in early spring this year, and Harvest Partners is expecting the shopping center to open by Fall of 2007.

Before we know it we'll be shopping for groceries, seeing movies, buying shoes, and eating out just down the street from

where we live. Of course, it is inevitable that along with a shopping mall comes more traffic. This will probably be the most detrimental effect upon our quaint historic neighborhood, and you might be wondering how the City is planning on handling this. The City recently held a meeting between concerned North Renton residents and city staff to help clarify their plans and to answer any questions raised. Gregg Zim-

merman, Director of the Planning/Building/Public Works Department and his staff, in addition to Alex Pietsch, Director of Economic Development, gave a very informative presentation, which ranged from the history of the property to what the current building plans are. Councilmember Denis Law was also present.

The City's analysis and assumption is that the majority of people com-

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Coming Up!

- **NRNA Quarterly Meeting:** Thursday, February 2, 7:00 pm at the Renton Senior Activity Center, 2nd Floor (social half-hour begins at 6:30 pm).

From the President

By President Rich Zwicker

Welcome to 2006!

I hope this new year finds everyone happy and well. It is time for our Quarterly Meeting, which will take place on Thursday, February 2, at the Renton Senior Activity Center, 2nd Floor. Social half-hour begins at 6:30 pm and the meeting will start at 7:00 pm.

I hope you can attend. It is a great opportunity to have a snack and meet your neighbors. We have a full slate of informative speakers and 2006 promises to be an exciting year for our neighborhood, so I hope to see you there.

You can contact the NRNA president at northrenton@msn.com or (206) 931-6356.

Things to Chatter About

These are great ice breakers to get to know your neighbors with! Information courtesy of the City of Renton Neighborhood News and City of Renton website

How To Get Rid Of Graffiti In Your Neighborhood

When graffiti first appears, the first thing you should do is call police or Code Compliance. If the graffiti is on a public place, such as in a park or on a street sign, then Code Compliance will coordinate with the city staff to get it cleaned up. If it is on private property they will contact the owners and work to get it removed.

Quickly removing the graffiti demonstrates to the offenders that it will not be tolerated in our neighborhood. This is one of the most important things to do, as once the neighborhood is recognized as "not caring" by the offenders, the problem will continue or escalate.

Code Compliance (425) 430-7373, or codecompliance@ci.renton.wa.us

REACT (Continued)

(Continued from page 1)

ing to and from the shopping center will be using interstate 405. How accurate that is remains to be seen. They are going to extend Logan Avenue northwards through what is now Boeing property until it reaches Park Ave North. This will allow traffic coming from I-405 to enter The Landing from both the west and the east entrances.

Park Avenue is expected to be similar to how it is today, but with wider sidewalks, longer turn lanes, and the addition of parallel parking spaces along the eastern perimeter of the shopping center. According to the City, this tactic will cause a "traffic calming" condition, preventing people from speeding through the shopping center. In other words, people will be more inclined to use Logan if they are bypassing the shopping center than to use Park.

"The City has sincerely expressed that they are ready and willing to address and work any traffic issues that develop after the shopping center is completed and open for business."

Please Drive SMART!

With the help of the Renton Police Department's Traffic Division and the City of Renton's Traffic Engineering Department, the Speed Monitoring Awareness Radar Trailer (SMART) is currently available for use. This unit is a portable, self-contained speed display unit that is towed to sites experiencing speed-related problems. A specially designed radar is mounted inside the locked trailer, clocking speeds. Motorists see their speeds displayed on a highly visible LED (light emitting diode) display. The speed limit sign above the display reminds motorists to pay attention and ease up on the gas pedal.

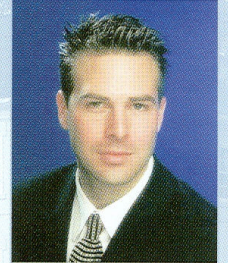
For those who refuse to take the hint, warnings and citations can be issued by an officer who may decide to wait up the street for those violators. As speed awareness goes up, motorists slow down, even after the unit is moved to a different location. If you are interested in placing this unit in your neighborhood, please contact the SMART Coordinator at (425) 430-7556.

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What remains to be seen is how many people will be using our quiet family-friendly neighborhood streets to get to the shopping center. The City has sincerely expressed that they are ready and willing to address and work any issues that develop once the shopping center is completed and open for business.

If the issues presented here are important to you then you need to make your voice heard, so please contact Mr. Zimmerman at (206) 430-

7204. And if you want to receive informational updates about The Landing, meetings between our neighborhood and the City, and other issues impacting our neighborhood, please contact the North Renton Neighborhood Association at:

northrenton@msn.com



Upcoming Events

February 1, Wednesday, 6:30pm to 8:00pm

Preschool Information Night

The Renton Community Center will host an opportunity to meet representatives from a variety of preschools in our community. More than 15 local preschools will set up booths and provide valuable information regarding their programs, hours, tuition and registration for the 2006-2007 school year. Please drop in for this informative evening.

February 22, Wednesday, 11:30am to 1:30pm

"Play It Safe" Festival

Calling all kids 12 & under (along with parent/guardian) to join us at the Renton Community Center. Learn about playing it safe with headliners from the Renton Police Department K-9 Unit, Valley Medical Center, Valley Com. (911) and more. Activities will be hands-on and interactive. Take home a goody bag, treats and more. Free!

March 11, Saturday, 10:00am to 11:30am

Summer Part-Time Job Fair

Meet division representatives, get job information and pick up applications at the Renton Community Center. Job opportunities include Henry Moses Aquatic Center staff, tennis instructors, Coulon and Kennydale lifeguards, recreation leaders and aides, day camp staff, boat launch attendants and more!



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Renton Police Officer Wounded

On Sunday, January 8th, Officer Larry Strauss was shot in the line of duty. According to the Renton Police Department, Larry saw a group of men dart across four lanes of traffic on Rainier Avenue and get into a van. As Larry approached the van one of the men ran and fired a gun. The two in the van were apprehended, and the man that shot Larry was arrested several hours later. At the time of printing Larry was still in serious condition in the hospital, responding but still recovering.



The Renton Police are asking for the assistance of the public in locating the firearm used in the shooting. They believe the weapon was discarded by the suspect prior to his arrest in the area of Rainier Avenue and Airport Way. Police are asking that those that live between South 2nd Street and North 6th Street, and between Rainier Avenue and Park Avenue North to check their yards, garages, or any other outside structures and areas in an attempt to locate the weapon. If you witnessed this shooting or have any information concerning it please contact the Renton Police Department at (425) 430-7500.

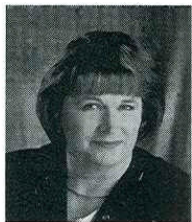


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