



March, 2010

A Publication of the Lake Samish Association

Spring Business Meeting

Thursday,
April 14th
at 7:00 pm
@
Lutherwood
Camp

AGENDA

- Stormwater Plan Update
- Knotweed
Amanda Summers
- Alert Siren Update
- Boat Launch Plan
Kye Iris
- Sleepy Hollow Development Update
- Flood Control
Theresa Sygitowicz

Coffee, juice and donuts will be provided.



Hauling logs into water with donkey engine, unidentified logging operation, Samish Lake, Washington, 1910

History Project

The Lake Samish Association History Project is “steaming” ahead. We’ve done numerous interviews so far. We are putting out an appeal for help to transcribe these interviews into a written format.

If you can help, please contact the history project group; Rita Wefer 733-7314, Mike Knapp 715-8461, Kathy Ploeger 733-5826, Pam Nolan 756-0233 or Joan Ellsworth 756-7577.

Revised Boat Launch Plan

Keep Lake Samish Safe (KLSS) received clarifications on the revised proposal to fix and upgrade the current Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) boat launch at East Lake Samish Drive.

WDFW's Kye Iris confirmed the revised plan eliminates any dock or float and only replaces the single concrete ramp. We believe these changes are key to addressing the safety and boat traffic issues brought forth by KLSS, which keeps lake users safer and water quality higher.

As is required by law, the plan also accommodates an ADA loading ramp, which is located off to the side in the parking lot, not in the water (there is no ADA float or dock). In addition, the parking lot will NOT be paved, designated parking spaces will be marked in an environmentally friendly way with concrete bumpers.

This scaled down version of the upgrade plan takes into account the objections many Lake Samish residents had with the original proposal, an added benefit is significantly lowering the cost in these times of budget constraints.

KLSS supports this revised proposal. We hope it is funded soon to not only deal with the safety and potential liability issues of the ramp in it's current condition, but also to eliminate the risk of another expanded version that could be funded in the future when the economy improves.

WDFW's Kye Iris will present the revised proposal at the April 14th LSA Meeting. She also provided 2 conceptual drawings of the boat ramp and the ADA ramp, which we have posted on the website to further explain the proposal.

Please contact me for questions or further discussion regarding this issue. Denise Beard, Keep Lake Samish Safe (KLSS), (206) 282-0258 or dkbeard@comcast.net

Bill sponsored by Rep. Morris Limiting Fertilizers with Phosphorus Passes

The state House passed on Monday, February 28, 2011 a ban on lawn fertilizers that contain phosphorus, with some exceptions.

The bill, **HB 1489**, was sponsored by Rep. Jeff Morris, D-Mount Vernon. Beginning in 2013, the bill would ban the sale and use of turf fertilizer with phosphorus in most cases. They would still be allowed in the following situations, according to the bill report:

- To establish or repair grass during a growing season
- To add phosphorus to soils lacking plant-available phosphorus levels
- To apply to pasture lands
- To use on houseplants, flower or vegetable gardens
- To use on agriculture or silvicultural lands



The bill would let counties and cities adopt more restrictive laws on the uses of the fertilizers. Morris and Rep. Kris Lytton, D-Anacortes, voted for it. Reps. Vincent Buys, R-Everson, and Jason Overstreet, R-Blaine, voted against it. Overall, it passed 58-39, with one member excused. A lot of people testified at the hearing for this bill.

Arguments in favor: Phosphorus is known to contribute to algae blooms in lakes and rivers. This is a modest and simple approach building on the existing ban on phosphorus in dishwasher detergent. This only targets turf fertilizer, which doesn't need phosphorus to be effective. Other states have seen reduced phosphorus levels in water after passing similar legislation. Costs to public infrastructure from not having to treat water for toxic algae will be avoided.

Arguments against: Only a small percentage of the state's 60,000 lakes have phosphorus issues. Phosphorus binds to plant roots and doesn't move into the environment. Rivers with it are being affected by natural sources, activities in upstream states, fish hatcheries and other non-turf sources. It may be easy to regulate fertilizer, but that doesn't mean it's the best course of action. Education would be better than regulation. Other states with similar bans haven't been able to show a corollary reduction in phosphorus levels in water. Phosphorus is necessary for maintaining grass, which reduces the need for additional fertilizers and fungicides. Less healthy plants would lead to more soil erosion.

Whatcom County already bans the use of fertilizers containing the nutrient in the Lake Whatcom and Lake Samish watersheds, although the county allows them on newly established lawns in the first growing season. The city of Bellingham also bans fertilizers with phosphorus in the watershed, although city code doesn't appear to offer an exemption for lawns just taking root.



My name is Theresa Sygitowicz. I am one of the newly appointed members of the Whatcom County River Flood Control Zone District Advisory Committee. For the past year, I have been the chairman of the Acme/Van Zandt Flood Sub Zone Board. I want to hear your concerns on flooding and storm water issues.

I'm a life-long resident of Eastern Whatcom County and a farmer. My grandfather's homestead, where I reside, is located in the Acme/Van Zandt Valley.

As a rural resident, I want to hear from the unincorporated sections of the county. This includes the greater Lake Samish area. We need to protect our resources, but also have the ability to use them responsibly, now and in years to come.

I am looking forward to attending your next community meeting on April 14th. I want to listen and learn of your concerns and issues. The voice of the rural community should be heard.

If you would like to contact me before, please call (360)595-5035 or email thesyg@aol.com

Thank you, Theresa Sygitowicz
Clipper, WA



Lake Samish Siren Alert System

Last year the fire department initiated a testing process for the Lake Samish Siren Alert System. Some of the equipment required for this system did not function properly and the test scheduled in October, 2010 was not completed successfully. We are expecting to have the problems resolved prior to the next scheduled test in May of this year and some pre-tests may occur.

HEADS-UP! The Fire Department will be testing the Lake Samish Siren Alert System at 12:00 Noon on Saturday, May 28, 2011. Thereafter, the system will be tested twice a year on the last Saturday each May and October at 12:00 Noon.

Please contact the Fire Authority at 360-676-8080, 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday if you have any concerns or questions regarding this testing.



Boating Season Reminder



Boaters are being urged to take their state-mandated safety courses and get their card early this spring instead of waiting until the boating season, when the state receives a flood of applications during the first days of summer. The law applies to operators of motorboats that are 15 horsepower or greater. **Boaters younger than 35 are required to take a boating safety course and get their card.** That requirement will widen to boaters born after 1954 by 2014, according to a news release from the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission. Boaters can take the course in a classroom, online or at home, and then need to apply for their card. To apply for the card or for more information on safety classes, go online to boatered.org or call 360-902-8555. The fine for not having the card is \$87.

Dittrich Park Update

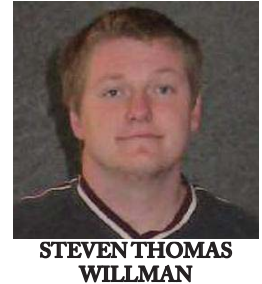
The Lake Samish Association Board is tracking the status of planning activity regarding development of a new county park on the 30 county-owned acres located on East Lake Samish Drive, generally known as Dittrich Park. The Whatcom County Parks and Recreation Department conducted watershed studies and wetlands delineation activities at this site and also, last year, demolished an old barn at the site. In early March this year, Michael McFarland, Director, Parks & Recreation, again confirmed that NO planning activity is scheduled to take place in 2011 or 2012. We have requested that McFarland contact the LSA Board in the early stages of the planning process to obtain input from Lake Samish residents prior to the standard public comment meetings. Please contact Joan Ellsworth at 756-7577 regarding this project.



Sex Offender Watch

Our website has recently linked to the Whatcom Sheriff's website - OffenderWatch® for the residents surrounding Lake Samish. OffenderWatch® is the nation's leading registered sex offender management and community notification tool with hundreds of leading agencies in dozens of states utilizing it. Whatcom County's law enforcement utilizes OffenderWatch® to manage and monitor the whereabouts, conduct and compliance status of the registered offenders in Whatcom County. OffenderWatch® provides the most accurate and timely information available and now this information is available to you!

Last month we warned you about a **Level III** registered sex offender that recently moved from Old Samish Road to the **1200 block of Roy Road** - **Steven Thomas Willman**. The Sheriff recently updated his picture on their website and you can see both pictures here:



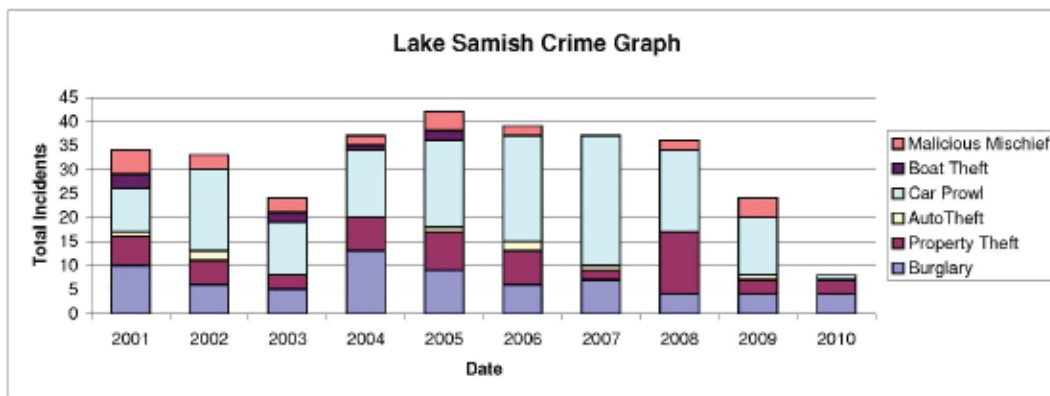
A Level II registered sex offender is currently living in the 16800 block of Equestrian Road. Ryan James Chappell, 27, is described as 5 feet 8 inches tall and 160 pounds, with brown hair and blue eyes. He has multiple tattoos on his calf, ear, leg and lip. Chappell was convicted of rape of a 14 year old child in the third-degree, according to the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office. Level III offenders are those considered most likely to re-offend.

Lake Samish
Number of Criminal Incidents
2001 - 2010

Incident	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Burglary (entry into a house)	10	6	5	13	9	6	7	4	4	4
Property Theft (cell phone, purse, credit card, etc.)	6	5	3	7	8	7	2	13	3	3
Auto Theft	1	2	0	0	1	2	1	0	1	0
Car Prowl (making entry into auto)	9	17	11	14	18	22	27	17	12	1
Boat Theft	3	0	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
Malicious Mischief (vandalism, broken window, graffiti, etc.)	5	3	3	2	4	2	0	2	4	0
Total Incident's	34	33	24	37	42	39	37	36	24	8

* Includes arrests only as one offense. most serious is listed

Jan-June



Source: Whatcom Sheriff

Sheriff Crime Report

The following incidents were reported from Oct., 2010 - Feb., 2011:

Theft:

-600 block N. Lake Samish Drive, Oct. 22
-1200 block N. Lake Samish Way, Nov. 30

Burglary:

300 block W. Lake Samish Drive, Feb. 4

DUI:

200 block W. Lake Samish Road, Jan. 8

Knotweed

There is an aggressive intruder in the Lake Samish watershed. It has been creeping into your lawns, along roadsides, & river banks. This aggressive intruder, unchecked will dominate the landscape. The Samish Indian Nation Natural Resource Department has spent the late summer & early fall 2010 working in the Samish watershed to map the extent of knotweed. Thus far, Samish DNR has walked approximately 15 stream miles & surveyed more than 25 acres of knotweed. This comprises just 20% of the watershed! We are now collaborating with landowners to schedule treatment projects starting late summer & will begin surveying again in spring.



critical because knotweed is destroying the natural stream ecology & invading yards. The large bamboo-like shrub chokes & destabilizes stream banks, out-competes native vegetation, & destroys the scenic & recreational qualities of our natural areas. Knotweed also degrades the habitat quality for wildlife & salmon. The extensive rhizomatous root system allows for prolific growth & regeneration. It is not uncommon to see patches of knotweed hundreds of ft long, 50 ft wide & 12 ft tall along the Samish. Knotweed is a high priority because the rate at which it spreads & its uncanny ability to grow just about anywhere. Pieces of knotweed stem 1/2 an inch long can float down stream & recolonize wherever it lands, infesting the yards of those who live downstream of us.

This effort is critical because knotweed is destroying the natural stream ecology & invading yards. The large bamboo-like shrub chokes & destabilizes stream banks, out-competes native vegetation, & destroys the scenic & recreational qualities of our natural areas. Knotweed also degrades the habitat quality for wildlife & salmon. The extensive rhizomatous root system allows for prolific growth & regeneration. It is not uncommon to see patches of knotweed hundreds of ft long, 50 ft wide & 12 ft tall along the Samish. Knotweed is a high priority because the rate at which it spreads & its uncanny ability to grow just about anywhere. Pieces of knotweed stem 1/2 an inch long can float down stream & recolonize wherever it lands, infesting the yards of those who live downstream of us.

Samish DNR's knotweed program has been funded by the US Environmental Protection Agency & offers assistance in controlling knotweed on both private & public lands at no cost to the landowner. Help Samish DNR start at the top of the watershed. If you have knotweed on your property, our Knotweed program can help! Please contact Amanda Summers at (360) 293-6404 ex. 111 or asummers@samishtribe.nsn.us for more information.



**2 Extra Large
Pepperoni
PIZZAS**

for

\$12⁹⁹

Plus
Tax

With Valpak coupon only. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 4/30/11



**Extra Large
Garlic Chicken
PIZZA**

only

\$8⁹⁹

Reg.
\$10.99

With Valpak coupon only. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 4/30/11

1215 N Lake Samish Dr (Exit 246) Inside The Shell Station CALL AHEAD-WE'LL HAVE IT READY! 733-5467

Save This Date!

Saturday, August 13, 2011

LAKE SAMISH SWIM-A-THON

A fundraiser for the Firemen's Association

Participate as an individual swimmer, a team of swimmers, or a rower for each swimmer.

Contact Vicki Hassi, (360) 224-3112, swimlakesamish@gmail.com

The 30-year Tradition goes on!

Neighbor Looses His Workshop

Despite losing his workshop to fire early Thursday, Jan. 13, Bellingham resident and business owner Dave Hewlett wants his customers to know he's still open for business.

Hewlett, owner of Grain and Shine Woodworking at 259 Shallow Shore Road in the Lake Samish area, awoke to the sound of an explosion and saw flames coming out the eaves of his garage around 2:30 a.m.

The garage, which doubled as Hewlett's workshop, was engulfed in flames when firefighters from South Whatcom Fire Authority arrived, Fire Chief Dave Ralston said. Additional assistance was provided by Fire District 18 as well as fire crews from Alger.

Firefighters kept the fire from spreading to other structures, including Hewlett's home, but the workshop burned to the ground, Ralston said.

Ralston said the cause of the fire was accidental, possibly electrical. The loss is estimated at \$100,000, he said.

Hewlett, who's working from his neighbor's shop, said he hopes to be working in his own place again in six months.

Sleepy Hollow Development Update

The Hearing Examiner meetings scheduled for this April have been canceled due to the Whatcom County Planning and Development Department's reconsideration and review of their original SEPA determination. Please stay tuned to the LSA website for up-to-date information and any future Hearing dates. Also included on the website is information about the 7 issues that will be discussed at future Hearing Examiner meetings as part of the Concerned Neighbors of Lake Samish's appeal. The Concerned Neighbors of Lake Samish (CNLS) was formed in 1992 to oppose this development because of the belief that there will be significant adverse environmental impacts to Lake Samish and its surrounding rural areas.

A Chance to Serve our Community

The Board is looking to fill three open positions: Vice President, Secretary and Support Chair. The VP assists the President, as well as recruits Association members who may be interested in a Board position or volunteering for a committee. The Secretary records and distributes the minutes of all meetings. The Support Chair coordinates activities for the lake community such as: Easter Egg Hunt, Fourth of July Boat Parade, etc. If you are interested in serving, please contact Dan Bult at 752-5771 or dbult@yahoo.com.

The Lake Samish Association

The purpose of the Lake Samish Association is to promote, encourage, protect, and enhance the social, public safety and environmental qualities of life in the greater Lake Samish basin and adjacent interdependent areas.

LSA Board of Directors

President	Dan Bult	Comm. Chr.	Kathy Ploeger
Treasurer	Joan Ellsworth	Issues Chr.	Kim Herrenkohl
At Large 1	Gordon Iverson	Website	lakesamish.org
At Large 2	Pam Nolan	Facebook	search for Lake Samish Association

VP, Secretary & Support Chair positions need filling at this time

**2011 Western Washington University
Women's Rowing Regatta**

Saturday April 16, 2011

Races begin at 10:00am @ Lake Samish

Event Location: Lake Samish Park & Bridge next to Lake Samish Park

**Parking: Camp Lutherwood with shuttle running to the bridge
1185 Roy Road Bellingham, WA 98229**

**Opponents: Gonzaga (NCAA Division I) &
University of Puget Sound (NCAA Division III)**

**Event Program: Races will begin at 10am and continue throughout the day,
starting every 15 minutes races will start. There will be a boat naming
ceremony prior to the race starting at 9:00, located at Lutherwood.**

****Programs will be available, free of charge for you to follow each race and there
will be a PA system set-up to call the race and introduce each team.***



For Spectators: To view the races – standing on the bridge is the only place accessible to general fans/spectators. There is no room for seats on the bridge. Bring chairs to sit at the park if desired. The best place to see the race is on the bridge, **standing room only!**

Bathroom Facilities: There are restrooms available inside the Lake Samish Park lodge and at Camp Lutherwood. The Lake Samish Park lodge is a great place to get warm if weather is a bit tough (let's hope not).

Weather issues: We will have tents set-up at both ends of the bridge, which can be used by spectators to stay dry (if needed).

www.wvuikings.com



Lake Views
C/O Dan Bult
1333 Roy Road
Bellingham, WA 98229

Calendar of Events

April, 2011

Early April
Help with Litter Pickup
9:00 - early afternoon

Thursday, April 14th
at 7:00 pm
Spring LSA Business Meeting
@ Camp Lutherwood

Saturday, April 16th
9:00-10:00 am
WWU Women's Rowing
vs Gonzaga University

Saturday, April 23rd
at 10:00 am
Easter Egg Hunt
@ Camp Lutherwood

May, 2011

Saturday, May 7th
9:00-5:00
Join Hands Day
Volunteer day to help get the
camp ready for summer

Saturday, May 14th
8 am-2 pm
Camp Lutherwood boat
launch open to all residents

May 13th & 14th
- Lake Samish Trials -
Running & biking race event
fundraiser, put on with Norka
Recreation

Ladies Spring Luncheon
Hostess wanted for mid-May date
Contact Joan @ 756-7577

Summer 2011

July 3rd - August 19th
Summer Camp @ Lutherwood

Monday, July 4th
Boat Parade

Saturday, August 13th
Swim-a-thon and
Lutherwood's 65th
Anniversary, Community
Extravaganza

Come join Lutherwood as we
celebrate our 65th year on Lake
Samish and the wonderful
community we reside in.

Food, activities, and entertainment
will be provided.