

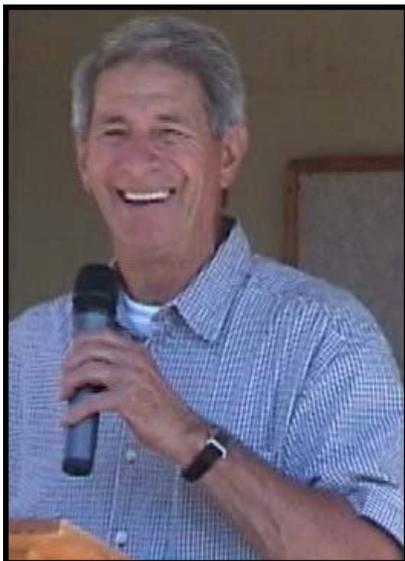
Wolcott retires

Changing the guard

After serving 21 years as Pierce County Parks Director, Jan Wolcott joined the realm of citizen activists on August 31 of this year.

Jan, who has been with Pierce County for more than 30 years, became eligible for retirement several years ago. Ever the optimist, Jan once vowed that he did not want to retire until the Foothills Trail was completed. Even he had not yet learned how long our project was going to take. In all fairness, Jan, in partnership with the Coalition, has now completed approximately 70 percent of the trail and has secured the funding, the right-of-way and other prerequisites to insure that the project will be completed within the next two to three years. Jan richly deserves to retire now so that he can enjoy the trail more and worry less. We are happy to release him from his vow, especially since we know that he will work just as hard out of office as before to see the task completed.

Thanks Jan, and congratulations from all of us!—
Ernie Bay



Pierce County hires new Parks & Rec Director

The appointment of Kathryn Kravit-Smith to replace retiring Pierce County Parks and Recreation Director Jan Wolcott was announced today by County Executive John W. Ladenburg.

Kravit-Smith will leave her position as Director of Food Safety, Animal Health and Consumer Services at the Washington State Department of Agriculture and begin her new job on September 1.

"Pierce County Parks and Recreation has a future other counties can only imagine," said Kravit-Smith. "Thirty-five million dollars will be spent on parks over the next few years. It's an exciting time to be here and an incredible opportunity to help guide the county through its biggest construction phase ever," she continued.

After launching her park and recreation career as a Neighborhood Recreation Coordinator with the City of Salem, Oregon, Kravit-Smith went on to become the Director of Land Use Planning for the State of Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, followed by Bureau Chief of Recreation for the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management and the Operations Division Director for the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission.

Altogether, Kravit-Smith brings more than 20 years of progressively responsible parks and recreation public service experience to her new position. "Kathryn has some big shoes to fill. But her unique combination of drive, experience and a very focused vision made her the right choice for the job," said Pierce County Chief of Staff, Lyle Quasim.

Kravit-Smith holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Bowling Green University in Ohio and a Masters in Business Administration from City University in Bellevue, WA. [from the August 24 *Tacoma News Tribune*]

Past President Ernie Bay thrice honored

Charter President Ernie Bay, after more than 18 years of leading the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition, ceded this role in January to enable a term-limited progression of future leadership.

Despite the leader in our March newsletter's President's Message, Ernie insists that, "Reports of my retirement are greatly exaggerated." Although no longer president, Ernie remains as active on the trail scene as ever. Nevertheless, the editor's wording precipitated a flurry of recognition that took Ernie by surprise.

First, at the May 6 meeting of the Puyallup
continued on next page

Bay honored (continued)

City Council, Ernie was profusely recognized by the mayor and fellow council members with a plaque and resolution honoring him for his years of volunteerism and leadership activities on the Foothills Trail and Puyallup Riverwalk in particular.

Next, on May 31, Ernie was similarly honored by Pierce County Executive John Ladenberg and the Pierce County Council. In addition, the council issued a resolution proclaiming June 4, 2005 (National Trails Day), as Dr. Ernie Bay Day In Pierce County, WA. The ceremony was televised live and was rebroadcast nearly daily for more than a week.

Lastly, on June 13, The Puyallup Sunrisers Kiwanis Club awarded Ernie its 'Every Day Hero Award' for his long dedication to trails.

Ernie said that he appreciated the recognition, although he found it overwhelming, and thanks all who were responsible.

Ernie continues his trail advocacy as Past President of the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition, and also by his membership and service with the Pierce County Conservation District, Conservation Futures Board, Forever Green, Puget Sound Regional Council Transportation Enhancements Committee and the Kiwanis Club of Puyallup.



Kelly Stickney, Enumclaw Starbucks manager, and Pat Johnson, FRTTC Board member, receive the \$15,000 Starbucks grant at the awards celebration ceremony in Seattle. The grant is for an urban extension of the Enumclaw Foothills Trail section.

Grants received

The Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition recently received two significant grants in keeping with its mission to assist communities and other interested parties in developing a regional trail network.

The Starbucks Coffee Com-

pany awarded us a grant of \$15,000 to assist the city of Enumclaw in extending its new trail to a signaled crossing of SR410. After crossing SR410 the trail will continue as a wide sidewalk through a major shopping district. Plans are currently

continued on next page

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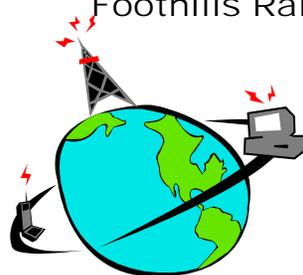
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We want to hear from you!

Grants (continued)

in progress for King County, in cooperation with Pierce County and the cities of Enumclaw and Buckley, to bridge the White River so that our respective trails may connect.

The second grant, for \$20,000, is from Recreational Equipment Company (REI) and will help build nearly a mile of trail joining both sides of the White River beside their Sumner distribution Center. In addition to the dollar amount, REI employees have participated with Coalition volunteers and Sumner city staff on several work parties to

CALENDAR

Monthly meetings are held on 4th Thursdays (except Dec.) from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Puyallup Public Library, south entrance.

324 South Meridian Street

EVENTS

October 15

Walk Across Washington

Contact Colin Brooks

253-922-0900

November 9, 4 to 7 p.m.

The Washington State Trails

Coalition 2005 'Gathering'

at Picora's Pizza in Seattle.

For more information call

Elizabeth Lunney, President of

WSTC at 206-625-1367.

WORK PARTIES

Check the website below or call

Don Partington at

253-863-5307 for details.

Weekly Meetings

At Charlie's Restaurant

Every Wednesday at noon at

Charlie's Restaurant,

113 East Main, Puyallup.

All are welcome.

For more information

Call 253-841-2570

Or email bugtrail@aol.com

<http://piercecounitytrails.org/>

clear brush and prepare the trail right-of-way. This section of trail will ultimately link with the City of Sumner's comprehensive trail system and ultimately with our Foothills Trail.



REI brush attack! Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition Vice President Buzz Grant looks on during a break as REI volunteers clear trail by tunneling through a seemingly impenetrable eight foot tangle of blackberry vines. Another crew of mostly Coalition volunteers pressed from the other end, but the two teams failed to meet, and had to reschedule for another, hopefully cooler, day. About two dozen volunteers, including Coalition members and REI and Sumner city employees, volunteered to begin the REI trail section on June 18, and also to clear additional trail in the Carbonado Canyon.—Ernie Bay

TEA-21 finally reauthorized

On August 10, after 12 extensions spanning two years, a new bill reauthorizing TEA-21, the federal surface transportation legislation, became law. Titled SAFETEA-LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users), it contains several pieces of exciting news for trail users. The five-year legislation includes \$3.5 billion for transportation enhancements, \$612 million for a national Safe Routes to School program, \$370 million for the Recreational Trails Program and funding for four communities in the new Nonmotorized Transportation Pilot Program.—*Rails-to-Trails*

I had a rose named after me and I was very flattered. But I was not pleased to read the description in the catalog: "No good in a bed, but fine against a wall."—*Eleanor Roosevelt*

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Bonney Lake

Trails, sidewalks and other non-motorized transportation improvements are a priority of the City of Bonney Lake's elected officials. To that end, the city council recently awarded Bruce Dees and Associates a \$44,250 contract to develop a detailed trails plan for the city, focusing primarily on the Fennel Creek corridor. This study will be coordinated with the non-motorized transportation plan study that will proceed during the same general time frame. —Don Morrison, Administrative Services Coordinator, City of Bonney Lake

Buckley

The City of Buckley has received an IAC grant for approximately \$125,000 to complete the remaining section of the Foothills Trail that lies within the city. The city will match this amount and the new section of trail will start at the National Guard Armory and go north to the White River. Buckley has plans for a small park along the river complete with covered picnic areas. They are in negotiations with King and Pierce County and the City of Enumclaw to build a bridge over the White River and connect with the Foothills Trail in Enumclaw. A work party held August 27 began clearing the trail so the city can put this project out to bid.—Ernie Bay

Edgewood

On July 25 the City of Edgewood Interurban Trail ad hoc committee completed its third and final review of the Master Plan Project. The committee

consisted of ten volunteers from the community selected by the city council for the purpose of providing input and guidance to Jay Rood Landscape Architects in developing the master plan for Edgewood's 1.8-mile trail connecting the City of Milton's section with the existing Interurban Trail in Pacific. After successful completion of grant applications, environmental permitting, and engineering, construction is scheduled to begin in 2007.

An open house and public meeting were held on August 18 to inform the public on development progress as well as to provide an opportunity to receive input from property owners along the trail and from citizens at large. Unfortunately, most of the people who attended were property owners along the trail right-of-way who have strong concerns about the proposal. In spite of the fact that the proposal addresses their concerns about safety and access issues with multiple remedies, they remain strongly opposed to the development of the trail.

ACTION ALERT! Public support is critical. If you would like the Interurban Trail through Edgewood to become a reality, please go to the City of Edgewood's web site at [http://](http://www.ci.edgewood.wa.us/)

www.ci.edgewood.wa.us/FEEDBACK.HTM and express your support. Thanks!—John S. Selby, ad hoc committee member

McMillin

Paving has been completed from McMillin north to the intersection and stop light at Old Military Road. About 100 yards north of that point, the cleared trail still dead ends until the culvert and rail crossing is built. The parking lot at the Meeker Trailhead (near Van Lierop's bulb farm) has just been paved as well as the trail south to a point a half-mile past Pioneer Ave. This is a very pleasant section of trail as it passes through farms and fields far from SR-165 near the forested hillside of the valley. From the end of the pavement on south and past Alderton, the trail has been cleared and all culverts installed right up to the missing rail crossing and culvert. It is very soft and dusty so you will need a mountain bike to reach the dead end going south. They plan to complete the final culvert and fill August 22. The remaining 8,000 feet will be paved September 9. Party time!—John S. Selby

continued on next page

Foothills Trail Coalition Board

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	Pat Johnson	360-829-2068	pat.johnson@tx3.net
	Don Partington	253-863-5307	cedarfamly@comcast.net

Networking (continued)

Puyallup Riverwalk

Progress on the Puyallup Riverwalk, Phase 4, slowed to a halt early in the summer when it was decided by Pierce County Improvement that major repairs had to be made to about 500 feet of dike lining before work on the trail could resume. Meanwhile, a new trailhead and naturalized park planting are nearing completion at 8th Avenue and 5th Street NE.—*Ernie Bay*

South Hill

On July 18, a mile-long trail system was dedicated in memory of Sgt. First Class Nathan Chapman, the first U.S. soldier to be killed in action in Afghanistan. The trail connects the Heritage Recreation Center and the South Hill Community Park at 86th Ave. and 144th St. E. [Excerpted from a notice in the *News Tribune*, July 14.]

Fife

Fife residents may be interested to know that we currently have some vacancies on the city parks department advisory board. We are currently soliciting applications for those vacancies, and the sooner I get some, the better.

We would love to talk to local advocates and involve them in our local effort for the Walk Across Washington event (see <http://walkwashington.org/>). Our event is going to be on Saturday, October 15, and our event organizer, Recreation Program Manager Colin Brooks, is looking for volunteers and to promote the event. He can be

reached at 922-0900. [Walk Across Washington will also have events in Bonney Lake, Enumclaw, Gig Harbor, Orting, Pacific, Sumner and Tacoma.]—*Michael Lafreniere*

*Senator
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Chehalis-Western Trail funded

On July 29 the *News Tribune* reported that the recent federal transportation bill included \$4.1 million to build a 0.6-mile pedestrian and bike bridge over I-5 connecting separate parts of the Chehalis-Western Trail system in Olympia.

Galloping Goose slowed to crawl

Cyclists are encountering so much congestion on Vancouver Island's Galloping Goose Trail, which connects Victoria with Sooke 60 km to the west, that advocates are suggesting it might be time to widen the popular trail. John Luton, who heads up the Capital Bike and Walk Society, said congestion has worsened since gas prices shot up over the last couple weeks and drivers began looking for cheaper modes of transport.

"Four-laning the Goose is no longer a joke," said Luton. "It's basically reaching capacity with all the traffic—they need to widen out some spots. The

stretch between Town and Country shopping centre and downtown is particularly bad, he said, resulting in delays and friction, including collisions between cyclists and pedestrians.

An estimated 4,000 to 5,000 people a day use the trail, which has become more popular every year, boosted by events such as Bike to Work Week each spring.

Grant Turner of Goldstream Bikes has seen a steady flow of people who say they're parking their cars and turning to pedal power for their commutes. Now people are coming into the shop on an "almost daily" basis to buy bikes, said Turner, who estimates 20 to 25 per cent of cyclists commute by bike.

Parks manager Lloyd Rushon said the Capital Regional District has no plans to widen the Galloping Goose Trail. The trail will, however, be the subject of a management review in a couple of years, at which the public will be asked to provide input on potential improvements.—*John S. Selby* [excerpted from an article by Sandra McCulloch and Debra Brash, in the *Victoria Times*, August 17.]

Special thanks to Wilkeson neighbors

As Pierce County continues to negotiate for purchase of the final few parcels needed to complete the Foothills Trail, it was an extreme pleasure to meet adjacent property owners Gregg DuPont and Linda DeBowes. Gregg and Linda are also trail users and Coalition members.

Don Hagen, Pierce County's contracted right-of-way agent, and I met with Gregg and Linda on their property north of Wilkeson. We were there to discuss Pierce County's desire to purchase a narrow strip of their land, but spent most of our time talking about how wonderful the trail is and how much better it will be when it's extended.

It's great to have trail neighbors like these two. We had good fellowship with them. And yes, they are willing sellers, and we have reached an agreement for purchase.

—*Jan Wolcott*



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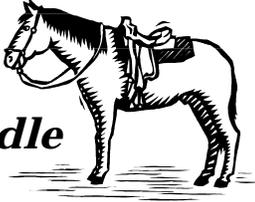
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From the saddle



Building trails for the future

Horses are a part of my life. I hope to blaze trails today that accommodate equestrian use into the future. We have experienced mixed success in the development of the Foothills Trail so far. To the readers out there who make horses a part of their lives, let's look to the future.

Horses are just one special trail user group. Vicki Frerichs and I recently revisited our "Horseback Riding on the Foothills Trail - Courtesy and Safety" publication. When we produced it in 2001 our target audience was equestrian trail users. A major focus was on user etiquette. Looking at trail use today we realize the need for addressing etiquette between all user

groups. The two of us will be refocusing the trail courtesy and safety handout to be more comprehensive and discuss equestrian-specific information at the end or create a separate brochure. Any trail users interested in assisting on this effort please contact me at

Clasyrydr@aol.com.

A regional trail system? The ForeverGreen Council is beginning work on a concept to offer trail building expertise to the 24 cities and towns in Pierce County. It is an interesting concept. But as ever, if horse lovers want a place along those trails, we are going to have to get involved.

Staying involved with the Foothills Trail future is what we have accomplished. Remember last year when a group of Back Country Horsemen lead the effort to stop erosion on the abandoned rail line up near Fairfax? Today Pierce County Parks and Recreation has taken ownership of the Fairfax town site and is securing ownership of the east-

ern bank of the Carbon River gorge. The abandoned rail line runs through the gorge. Serious horse riders take note: Extension of the Foothills Trail past Carbonado holds the opportunity of creating a loop trail that is longer than 15 miles. You read it correctly—a loop trail out in the upper Carbon River valley! That is the kind of equestrian-friendly trail we would all love to see as part of our future. But it won't happen without the involvement of horse lovers. Lets talk!

The way this process works is for friends to be involved and give the input needed to create a horse-friendly trail that we can all use. Happy Trails!—*Linda Clark*

Don't let it end like this. Tell them I said something.—*Last words of Pancho Villa (1877? - 1923)*

Boy, the things I do for England.—*Prince Charles on sampling snake meat.*



The HEIGHTS

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Along the Foothills Trail...

"Eureka!" shouted Archimedes when he discovered the purity of gold—or so they say. "Eureka!" yelled I as we set forth on a hot, bright Sunday in August to discover the new, partially-paved Puyallup to McMillin segment of the Foothills Trail. Clay and I, along with fellow Coalition members Ernie Bay, Clive Berglund, Buzz Grant and Lloyd and Phyllis Johnson, wanted to see with our own eyes how the trail had progressed.

Steve Brown also stopped by long enough to snap a digital photo of our trail trip. Despite excessive heat, dust, and some maneuvering around the pipe company where the trail will take a sharp turn to the south, we loved it! Much of the trail diverges from the noisy highway as it opens new vistas past thriving fields of rhubarb, pumpkins, beautifully groomed Christmas trees and a gorgeous, unobstructed view of Mount Rainier. Folks, I kid you not—when completed, we will have approximately 15 miles of "pure gold" trail running from Puyallup to South Prairie. Yes! We owe so much to Ernie Bay, Jan Wolcott, Dr. Tait, and all the other visionary trail blazers that walk the walk for trails.

Good news! Michelle Johnson, Public Education Specialist for the University Place Fire Station, confirms that the Foothills



Breakfast in the Woods servers are all smiles.

Coalition is "definitely participating" in this year's Subway Safe Rider program. This great program is a joint venture between Subway and Pierce County Parks and Recreation designed to encourage children to wear helmets. Kids, BOLO (be on the lookout). If you are wearing a properly-fitted helmet when we do a courtesy stop, you will be given a Safe Rider Citation. In 2004, 118 safe rider citations were issued to safety-conscious children. So watch for us! We wear lime and yellow vests, with the Foothills Trail logo and an individual name tag attached to our pocket. Children not wearing helmets will be given information on where helmets can be purchased at minimum cost.

Our goal is to educate and encourage trail users on the importance of wearing helmets. We find it shocking that more than half of the trail users encountered this summer were NOT wearing helmets. This is unfortunate, because statistics

confirm that wearing a helmet may prevent serious brain trauma and/or lifetime disablement. The courtesy patrol will follow up next spring through contacts with schools and the local media to reinforce the importance of wearing a helmet. Laws requiring helmets differ, or do not exist, from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. However, if you want to travel Pierce County trails—wear a helmet no matter what your age. It's safer and it's the law! In our humble opinion, Washington State should require helmet wearing throughout our beautiful state by cyclists and other wheel travelers.

Summer was sweet and mellow along the Foothills Trail as our courtesy patrol melded into a cohesive team, each of us taking to the trail on our own schedule. Gully Collier heads the dawn patrol, Clay and I follow with the early morning shift, Doug and Kathie Carter patrol the mid-day shift and Bob and
continued on next page



The *Trail Line News* is edited by John Selby at JohnandDottieSelby@att.net.

Newsletter layout is by Sarah Garmire at BSGarmire@cs.com. Photos and captions should be sent directly to her.

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Gatchels (continued)

Florence Larsen hit the trail after they get off work. Ernie Bay is here and there and everywhere, fixing this and that, or just having fun along with the rest of us.

Problems were few this summer except for a few flat tire cases and the dispensing of some band aids. Our pet peeve remains the few discourteous, fast-moving cyclists who fail to signal intent to pass other trail users.

We are blessed that many of our trail users are self-motivated to do their part in keeping the trail ship shape. As conscientious as they are, the Pierce County maintenance crew (AKA PC Good Guys) can't do it all. It's not unusual to see Joe Wise walking along the trail with a scythe in one hand and several garbage bags in the other. Tom and Mary Felkins are quick to report on problems and take digital pictures to pass on. Lloyd and Phyllis Johnson will stop to help a child with a bike problem and report unusual happenings.

By the time you read this, "our trail" will be paved all the way from Puyallup to South Prairie—maybe!

Happy Trails and Peace out Y'all!—*Dixie Gatchel*

Fall is my favorite season in Los Angeles, watching the birds change color and fall from the trees.—*David Letterman*



Diners enjoy good company during Breakfast in the Woods.

Breakfast in the Woods

Early risers enjoy food, music outdoors

If good will and energy were fungible with cash, the donations collected at the third annual Breakfast in the Woods on August 20 will be more than enough to complete our entire Foothills Trail system and then some. However, that information was not available as we go to print, so please think positively that we made Big Money.

We do know that an enthusiastic group of trail lovers and environmental activists gathered at the sylvan site owned by the Tacoma Mountaineers to enjoy a gourmet breakfast under a warm sun and to beat the drums for trails.

Before dawn while a full moon was still visible, Foothillers, in handsome tuxedo aprons, worked frantically to prepare for early guests. When the first ones arrived, shortly after 7 a.m., the tables were adorned with flowers, the heritage silver

was shining and a hot, hearty meal was ready for all to enjoy.

Smiles were abundant as we greeted old friends and made some new ones. Within an hour or so, colorfully garbed cyclists began arriving from Orting and Black Diamond. Music appropriate for this beautiful place was provided by flutists Mardel Chowan and Denny Moore.

Of course, the hope for events such as Breakfast in the Woods and the Rainier to Ruston Rail-Trail Relay is to make money for rail-trails. However, more importantly, the real goal is to raise public awareness as to the ascetic, recreational and economic opportunities inherent in having a non-motorized trail running along the historic Carbon River corridor from Mount Rainier National Park to Tacoma's Commencement Bay.

Tahoma to Tacoma or bust!—*Dixie Gatchel*



Meet your Board

Pat Johnson

It is a great pleasure to be the newest board member of the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition. Early retirement in January has afforded me the time to be more active in this organization. I have been an active trail supporter and user for many years and now is the time to "give back."

I was born and raised in the City of Buckley. After living away from Buckley for 16 years, my husband and I decided that we wanted our children to be raised in a small town so they would be near family, know the value of small town life and not go to huge suburban schools. So in 1985 we decided to move back to Buckley. I have two adult children: Karen, who works in flight operations for Alaska Airlines, and Jim who is a dentist practicing in Fife. My husband, Kirk, is a computer software manager for Boeing.

Foothills Trail founder Dr. Doug Tait was always recruiting people to help on trail projects and promoting the value of the trail. After working on several "trail parties" I began to see how important the trail was going to be for Buckley. Through Dr. Tait's efforts, Buckley was the first section of the trail to be paved. Over the years, it has become our most heavily used park. When the trail is completed to Enumclaw and South Prairie, it will become the cornerstone for Buckley's economic recovery.

For the past 14 years I have been on the Buckley City Council where I have been in a position to support trail projects. I have been successful with two trail grants: the IAC grant of \$125,000 for completion of the Buckley trail and the \$15,000 Starbuck's grant for the Enumclaw portion of the Foothills Trail. I was also instrumental in



Pat Johnson

getting the IAC grant for Buckley's new skate park which is located on the Foothills Trail. I am running for Mayor of Buckley this fall and, if elected, trails will always be one of my top priorities.—*Pat Johnson*

Rainier to Ruston recap

We threw the old record book into Puget Sound after this year's Rainier to Ruston Rail-Trail Relay on June 4, National Trails Day. After going public for the first time in its three-year history, the relay attracted a record 37 teams and 166 total participants, including some speedy finishers. The fastest team finisher—and new course record holder—was Team Fleet Feet from Bonney Lake. The four-person squad from our Gold Sponsor completed the 50-mile course from Carbon River to the Tacoma waterfront in 5:34:20.

Fleet Feet runners included Markus Dennis, Dennis Eldridge, Pat Kenworthy and Kevin Alfano. The top ultra was Matt DeBoer, the "Flying Dutchman," of Puyallup with a time of 7:41:22. Matt was one of five ultras who broke ground as the

first athletes with solo descents of the Rainier to Ruston.

The top solo walker was Kirsten Sanford of Buckley who completed the newly routed 26-mile walking relay from Carbon River to Orting in 5:53:09, beating all the other walking teams as well!

"This year's event attracted record numbers to the trail as athletes from all over the region competed for the coveted Golden Spikes," says race founder John Selby.

"The Rainier to Ruston helped to raise over \$2,500 in addition to public awareness of the trail in support of our long term vision: a continuous, non-motorized public trail from Mount Rainier to Puget Sound.

"A big thanks to our 20 sponsors and to the 47 volunteers, without whom we never could have pulled off such a successful first year of Rainier to Ruston as a public sporting event."—*Jeremy Engdahl-Johnson*

Last chance for bricks in 2005

Most people have to wait nearly a year to see their names or the names of friends inscribed in our Orting kiosk bench. But, if you act soon, you can see your name (or that of someone you wish to honor) before the end of October. Because of the engraver's work backlog and earlier delays in achieving our minimum order, the earliest that we have been able to schedule our 2005 brick subscriptions is this October.

If you subscribe brick engravings before October 1, we can add your name(s) to our current order. What a great way to surprise someone for Christmas. Take them out for a holiday trail walk and have them discover their name in brick!

Please see the form on the last page of this newsletter.

Memberships and donations listed

\$18 - 25

Eleanore Bailey, Warren & Sheila Bayard, Burritt & Charlotte Birge, Gail & Chuck Bronson, Gary & Janice Burley, Mike Carlson, Bette & Bill Catlin, J. Broadus & A.C. Clark, Doris M. Clayton, Mary E. Connolly, Edward Davis, Paul Endter, Arthur & Phyllis Forbes, Alexander Grifin, Paul Holmes, Suzanne Lewis, Terry & Susan Matlock, Dave & Beth Meshke, Nancy & Rick Patterson, John & Lorraine Peterson, Cindy Poysnick, Gary & Judy Radliff, Kathy Roppo, Norm & Gretchen Ross, Mr. & Mrs. Arthur H. Sandboe, Dean Terry, Al Truscott, Stacey Van Norman, Bruce & Jaqueline Waddell.

\$26 - 50

Anonymous (Microsoft Giv-

ing), Nels & Winifred Bjarke, Bert Brown, Emily Coulter*, Mark Dyson, Judy & Merlin Klingman, Dolly Monaghan*, Nancy Neyenhouse, Roger Nix, Rick Olexick & Nancy Block-Olexick, Leslie & Cheryl Pederson, Joeseeph & Marjorie Rinehart, Haven Silver, Gary & Beverly Strodtz, Paul & Christine Swinehart Jr., Roger Ternes, Gerald Whitehouse, Anna Graham & Fred Wolf.

\$51-100

Samuel & Winnifred Peach, Melanie Ito & Charles Wilkinson

\$101 - 499

Heidi Althausen , Gwen & Philip Phibbs

* Includes brick purchase(s)

** Includes tree purchase(s)

Dear Foothills Trail Coalition. . .

We took off this morning on the Interurban Trail and rode our bikes all the way to its end at East Marginal Way. The head of the trail began in the little town of Pacific and came to an abrupt halt, as there was some type of construction, so we had to detour for about a mile until we could pick up the trail again.

Wowie, are we spoiled with the beautiful Foothills Trail! What a difference! It appears that there is no maintenance on the beginning of the Interurban Trail other than mowing the sides. There were so many posts missing along the way that either rotted away or just fell over and had been pushed off to the sides. The potties were few and very far between, and the bushes were looking inviting. Would you believe, not even a coffee stand?

We continued to the very end of the trail, which was behind the main Post Office Distribution Center. Turning around and

heading back to the start, we chose to ride along the river and through a beautiful park with several soccer fields and loads of kids and families enjoying the sport.

Crossing over West Valley, we picked up the Interurban Trail again and were treated to a large group of kids of various ages participating in what looked like a medieval battle on a large playing field. They were divided into groups with shields, swords, war clubs, etc., all of which were made of some type of soft rubber material. It was entertaining to watch all the "knights" and a few "knightesses" running around with clubs in hand to attack the foe. They appeared to be having a fun time, and what a great way for teens and young adults to get out built up energy.

We rode for approximately 48 miles, and had a wonderful time. It was great to see so many people of all ages out enjoying the day at golfing, baseball, soccer

and, yes, lots of bike riders.

Once again, I say: How nice the Foothill Trail is! And how well it is cared for! And, finally, how appreciative we are to have a Courtesy Patrol.

Thank you, Clay, Dixie, Gully, Katie, Doug, et al.—*Phyllis Johnson*

My husband and I have watched the growth of the Foothills Trail from the time of its first public call for support to the reality of its success today.

Upon the retirement of Ernie Bay we are sending a special donation to honor him and all those who, over the years, persisted with their dream, overcame the nay sayers and obstructionists, and worked physically and mentally for years to give us a recreation destination with beauty and history.—*Gwen and Phil Phibbs*

I took a friend and went to the Breakfast in the Woods today. It was great! I had bought tickets in the previous years but gave them to others. This time I went too. Congratulations to all for all the hard work and a great breakfast.—*Irene Potter*



Chefs watch pancakes on the griddle for Breakfast in the Woods.

The only reason I would take up jogging is so that I could hear heavy breathing again.—*Erma Bombeck*

New Members Always Welcome

If you appreciate the work that we are doing and wish to see more trails, please consider joining us. Foothills Trail memberships start at \$18 single and \$25 family. Credit cards accepted.



- \$18 Single \$25 Couple \$50 Trail Builder
- \$100 Hero Even more! Honorary Member

Trees for the Trail / Orting Trail Kiosk Engraved Bricks

_____ Number of tree(s)

_____ Number of brick(s)

@ \$50 per tree or brick = \$ _____

Name(s) to appear on Tree Tag or Brick _____

Charge my VISA or Mastercard

No: _____ Exp: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Signature: _____

Mark your categories, mail form and check to:

Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition

P.O. Box 192, Puyallup, WA 98371-0021

Courtesy Patrol volunteers needed

If you ride the Foothills Trail often, at least once a week, please consider joining our Courtesy Patrol. We currently have several very committed volunteers, but we would like to see those yellow vests flashing down the trail more hours of each day.

The idea of the courtesy patrol is primarily to provide a reassuring presence for those users less confident of their safety, but also to provide trail information, remind dog owners to leash their animals and help with flat tires and other minor bicycle maintenance as situations may occur. Courtesy Patrol members also look out for and report maintenance needs such as vandalism and tree falls.

If you would like become a part of the Courtesy Patrol, please call 253-841-2570.—
Ernie Bay

If you aren't fired with enthusiasm, you will be fired with enthusiasm.—*Vince Lombardi (1913-1970)*

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