



# THE GATEWAY

Wilkeson Town  
Newsletter  
FALL 2012



## Corridor Planning Project

Wilkeson's Rural Town Center Corridor Plan is nearing completion. The *Preliminary Corridor Evaluation Report* was completed in June and concepts were shared with the public at the Wilkeson Days celebration. After receiving public input at an open house, the Wilkeson Days booth, and from both the Steering Committee and Town Council, the project team is now refining the preferred alternatives for the final report.

A draft final report should be complete in October, and will be presented to the Town Council for comment. The report will include cost estimates and conceptual renderings for improvements along both sides of Church Street through the town center, and will include pedestrian and bicycle improvements, expanded parking, waterfront access, coordination with a potential National Park Service center, and better access and circulation for businesses.

## COKE OVEN PARK OPEN HOUSE

**Wilkeson Invites Residents & General Public!**

To: A Presentation of the Regional Coke Oven Park Conceptual Plan

**Date: Saturday, October 20, 2012**

Time: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Location: Wilkeson Town Hall

The Town of Wilkeson will present a conceptual plan for Coke Oven Park developed from a special charrette process. (A charrette is an intense graphic visioning or brainstorming session.) Prior to the open house, there will be 35 to 40 committed participants, including about 20 community members, 11 volunteer landscape architects, and 7 student landscape architects from the UW and WSU. The group will work all day that Saturday to complete their part of the plan, then present the drawings to the public from 6:30 to 7:30 pm during a Public Open House. Come join us and see the park possibilities!

Wilkeson thanks the Charrette Partners, the Washington Chapter, American Society of Landscape Architects, and the National Park Service – Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program. Special thanks to Bryan Bowden of Mount Rainier National Park.



**~FLASH BULLETIN~** This just in.....

The State RCO office just announced that the Town of Wilkeson placed 7th on a list of 44 applicants for grant funds! The prospect of getting funded is fairly high. We are awaiting the state budget confirmation next year. These funds will cover most of the monetary costs associated with building a skate park. The Town and KCI are working together to cover the other half of in-kind labor, donations and fundraising of \$10,000 more.

## Message from the Mayor

A small town used to be able to handle a lot of its own projects by rallying the local troops, hire whom they wanted, or do the work themselves. Town projects are rarely that quick anymore. With new land use laws and regulations - towns are required by law, like any other municipality, to follow more and more policies and practices. This is especially important to be eligible for funding, whether our population is 477 or 47,700.

What makes it financially hard for small towns is long term planning. A planning department is a normal part of a larger town or city. For Wilkeson, we have to hire consultants such as town planners and engineers as we go, a cost our small town budget can not afford, yet we can not afford not too! I want to let you know your council and staff have been proactive in finding funding resources, hiring good firms, and getting projects done. I want to thank the council for really having great discussions on every turn our town has been taking these last three years and keeping within our budget. I invite the residents to get involved and join us at our meetings. These are exciting times to plan Wilkeson's future and your input counts. Please contact me at town hall or feel free to email me if you have any questions. Thank you,



Donna Hogerhuis, Mayor  
Mayor@townofwilkeson.com

## DISCONTINUING DOOR KNOCKERS

Please be advised that as of October 2012, the utility department will **NO LONGER** be placing door knockers on residents doors. Utility bills are due by the 25th of each month. If you cannot pay your bill in full, please contact the utility clerk to set up payment arrangements.



### Wilkeson 4th Annual Christmas Contest

*Win cash and prizes for best  
Christmas Spirit—Lights and Theme*

Judging will be on Thursday, December 6th from 6-7p.m. and the winners will be announced on December 8th, 6:30 p.m., at the Tree Lighting ceremony at Town Hall. Come early, from 3:00-5:30 p.m., and bring the kids so they can visit Santa, eat some goodies and do Christmas activities. For more information contact Linda Youman at 360-829-3714.

*Sponsored by:  
Wilkeson Historical Society*



### Albert Street and Brierhill Blvd Improvements

Wilkeson has just received wonderful news! It looks like the other half of Albert Street and a portion of Brierhill Blvd may be funded from Pierce County Department of Community Connections. There is no cost to Wilkeson's budget! This would include new utility lines, drainage and a sidewalk, completing the full street project to SR 165 on the north end.

If all goes well, work could begin sometime this summer. We will keep you posted.

## Skateboard Park Progress



Fundraising for the skate park is going strong! Kids for Community Improvement (aka KCI) have raised \$1,915.00 of our \$10,000 goal with fundraisers and monetary donations!

We want to thank Chuck's Gas Station for use of their location for our car wash and for the donation jar. Currently KCI has a **raffle for a designer snowboard or skateboard**, courtesy of local artist Quincy Quigg and Libtech, going on until November 30th. The drawing will be held at 7pm at the Eagles on November 30<sup>th</sup>. You may purchase tickets for the raffle at Enumclaw Ski and Mountain, Rainier Boardshop in Bonney Lake, Wilkeson Town Hall, Buono's Coffee, and the Wilkeson Saloon. Tickets are \$1.00 each. Cash donations may also be made at Chuck's Gas Station. We are still diligently collecting aluminum cans for recycling as well. We will even come and pick them up from your home!

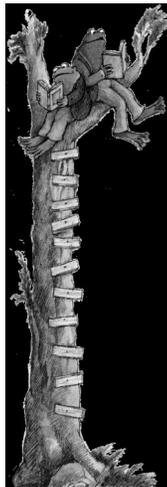
The public is invited to attend a fall dinner and auction at the Wilkeson Eagles Hall on November 17th. Dinner is from 4-7pm with the live and silent auction following dinner. Tickets for dinner will be available for presale soon. If you would like to donate a new or gently used item for the auction, inquire about dinner tickets or have questions about how you can help with any of the above, please call or email. The KCI group welcomes volunteers and needs all the help they can get to make this exciting community project a successful one!

Contact Trisha Summers Home 360-829-0917  
Cell 253-255-2439. Email [Sumfam@comcast.net](mailto:Sumfam@comcast.net)



### Town Hall Information

Town Hall Offices:	(360) 829-0790
Town Website:	townofwilkeson.com
Hours of Operation:	9 a.m.- 4 p.m. Mon.-Thur.
Utilities Bills Due:	25th of the month
Council Meetings:	2nd/4th Wed. 7:00 PM
Plan. Comm. Meetings:	3rd Wed. 6:00 PM



It's Story Time  
at the Buckley  
Library!!!  
Brochures and  
flyers with story  
time schedules  
are available  
at town hall.

*Happy Birthday to  
Longtime Residents:*



*Skeek Gonzales—84th  
Florence Fabiani—90th*