

**A NOTE FROM THE MAYOR**

Even with the recent economic downturn, I continue to be very upbeat and enthusiastic about our City's future. Working with a very positive group of City Councilmembers our City continues to move in an upward direction. A grant from Snohomish County that has enabled the construction of a skate park within Brier Park and construction is set to begin this month. The City Council granted a franchise to Verizon, enabling another option for internet, phone and television services for all of us. The Allview area annexation is still in the governmental process. It is my hope this process will conclude by spring and we can welcome the Allview residents into our City.

When I took office in 2006 I was very fortunate to entice our current Community Development Director, Jim Cutts to help get our City back on track. Jim has spent over 35 years in municipal community planning and is set to retire at the end of this year. Since August of this year we have been fortunate to have Nicole Gaudette working as an associate planner with our City. Nicole is set to handle all of your land use, zoning and other development and operations issues. Our long time employee, Mickie Halverson, suggested we begin to offer passport services last year. From that suggestion we have been able to make getting a passport a little easier in our area, and generate additional revenue for our City.

If we get snow this year expect to see the City of Brier's first all wheel Police vehicle on our streets. Our Chief was able to acquire at no cost, a 4 wheel drive Blazer from the Federal Government. Along with donations of services and materials from Lynnwood Auto Parts, Northshore Garage & Body Shop Inc. and SecureEye Systems Inc. our police will be able to respond to your needs in the event the weather turns bad.

The Council and I along with our dedicated employees are all continuing to work together maintaining our goals of civic improvements and quality services for a reasonable cost. Our employees in all departments continue to be our best asset that results in quality service for all of us.

I would like to encourage everyone to get involved with your community. We often have volunteer boards that could use your participation. Please contact our City Clerk Paula Swisher for additional information. Next time you're by City Hall stop in and say hi.

Mayor Bob Colinas

**PUBLIC WORKS**

As the leaves are falling, it's time to ask all residents to keep an eye out for plugged storm basins lids and storm drainage culverts. A simple rake can open up a plugged basin or culvert in a few seconds and prevent local flooding

and possible water damage to private property. With the amount of leaves on the ground right now, Public Works can not keep all of the basins open and flowing as we would like.

This is also a good time to do some pruning of bushes and trees that overhang sidewalks or block the view at intersections.

Don't forget the wind storms we can have around here: trees down, power lines down, power out. Downed power lines can be fatal! If the ground is wet and the downed line is still live, the electricity can travel across the surface of the ground and you would never know what hit you. Please call 911 if you see any downed trees across the road way or power lines down, and Public Works will respond immediately to make the area safe until Snohomish County PUD can respond, which during extreme weather can take up to several days. So play it safe and stay away!!

As we've said in past newsletters, when the snow hits the ground be prepared. Make sure your vehicle's fuel tank is full, have the proper traction tires on your car, and carry chains or cable chains that will make a huge difference in how you get thru the snow. And have proper clothing if you get stranded and have to walk.

If we get below freezing weather be sure your hose bibs are covered and all exposed water lines are wrapped. Make sure you have an extra heat source for your home if the power goes out, but do not use any open flame or BBQ's indoors as the carbon monoxide can be fatal. Also check on your elderly neighbors to see that they are warm and have warm food to eat.

In the event of snow, Public Works will be out early in the morning to plow the roads. We try to plow all roads as soon as we can but the amount of snow we get can prevent us from getting to all the side roads. If you need to leave your home and your road hasn't been plowed yet please call Brier City Hall at 425-775-5440, and we will get the plow out to your street. We have two plows and sanders; although the new plow is smaller it will be an asset in clearing roads quicker.

### **PARKS**

#### **Mark Your Calendars**

December 6<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, - Annual Tree Lighting at Brier Park - Santa arrives at 6:30 pm. There will be hot cocoa, coffee, juice, cookies. Plus Santa, Mrs. Claus and singing by the Cantare Choir of Brier Elementary. The Brier Christmas Ships and a food drive to benefit the Concern for Neighbors Food Bank. Don't miss this fun annual event.

April 11<sup>th</sup>, Saturday - Traditional Egg Hunt at Brier Park - Starts at 10:00 am promptly. There will be separate age group areas for kids two to ten years old.

#### **Skate Park**

We are moving forward with the project. The final plan is on the city's web site – [www.ci.brier.wa.us](http://www.ci.brier.wa.us).

Local Scout, Ian Palmer, will be adding benches to the skate park as his Eagle project. We thank him for his support. We would like to note Mayor Bob Colinas' hard work in getting additional financing and administering the forward movement of the skate park.

**Park Link**

The Park Board is installing marked walking routes between our parks - Look for signs from Brierwood Park to Locust Creek Park to Brier Park. Next leg will be links from Brierwood Park to Brier Patch Park and Brier Park to Bob Cat Park.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT****Found Property**

Numerous found property items are released to the Brier Police Department on a daily basis. If you have lost an item in Brier, please contact the Brier Police Department at 425-775-5452 to report your lost or stolen property as the item may have been located and awaiting owner identification. Found property items are held at the Police Department for 60 days prior to disposal or auction.

**Passport Services**

The City of Brier is now providing full **Passport Services**. The program has been up and running since November 2007 and has been very successful. You may apply for your passport at Brier City Hall, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:00 PM. Passport photo services are also available making the endeavor a one stop and shop service. For further information please contact Brier City Hall at 425-775-5440 or 425-775-5452.

**Vacation Checks**

The Brier Police Department offers Security House Checks to residents while away vacationing or for prolonged periods. The Security House Check forms can be found on line at [www.ci.brier.wa.us](http://www.ci.brier.wa.us) or at the police department office. Please submit the

completed form to the Brier Police Department.

**New Year's Celebrations**

Per Brier Municipal Code 8.28.010, "In accordance with RCW 70.77.395, as amended, the use or discharge of consumer fireworks are expressly prohibited within the City of Brier from twelve noon on December 27th through twelve midnight, December 31st." If you have any questions regarding the use of fireworks during New Years celebrations please contact the Brier Police Department during business hours at 425-775-5452.

**SEWER BILLING**

Due to an increase by King County Metro you will find an increase in charges on your sewer bills beginning in January 2009.

Don't forget you can pay for the year and get a month free on your sewer billing if your payment is received at City Hall before close of business on February 27, 2009.

**SNO-ISLE / BRIER LIBRARY**

There is always something happening at the Brier Library! A Winter of Singer Songwriters of the 70's @ Your Library offers a walk back in time to experience some of the best music of the seventies. Join us for the Brier Taste Test Comparison & Game Day, an afternoon of treats and gaming for teens. Help us determine which after-school snacks Brier teens prefer. Children are invited to bring favorite books to read aloud to a patient canine listener. Reading with Rover is a community-based literacy program designed to help kids strengthen reading skills and improve reading confidence. Share stories,

songs and dance at our Family and Preschool Storytimes. Dates and times for these programs, as well as many others can be found at <http://www.sno-isle.org>.

Want to give back to the community and the Library? Be a Friend! The Friends of the Brier Library is a non-profit organization that fundraises to support programs at your Library. Friends memberships annually cost \$5 for an individual, \$15 for a family, \$25 for an organization, or a lifetime membership for \$100. For more information, visit us at our monthly meeting held the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday (September through June) at 7pm in the Library.

The Friends of the Brier Library will host its annual sale on Saturday February 7<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 – 5:00pm in the Brier Library. The Friends also sponsor an ongoing booksale in the lobby. Drop by during open hours and check out the wide selection of titles for purchase.

Find out more about the Library and programs, by calling 425-483-1468 or visit [www.sno-isle.org](http://www.sno-isle.org). See you at the Library!