R2R Trail Relay is Huge Success

by David Seago

With a record turnout of runners and walkers and a fabulous day of sunshine, the ninth running of the Rainer-to-Ruston Rail-Trail Relay and Ultra on June 4th was far and away the best. No doubt about it.

And dedicated second-year R2R director Rob Hester -- stepped up the marketing, sharpened the race-day event execution, marshaled 80-plus volunteers and stayed up all night before the race tending to final details -- was the hero of the day.

Last year’s record of 300 participants was crushed when 742 entrants registered for the 2011 R2R, the Foothills Rail-to-Trails Coalition’s annual celebration of National Trails Day. An elite field of 60 athletes took on the full 50-mile course, which began near the Carbon River entrance to Mount Rainier National Park and wound through forests, fields, cities, and towns to Tacoma’s Commencement Bay waterfront.

At least one woman runner passed out in the heat (such as it was), and inevitably a few runners wandered off course despite emphatic course markings, but no major glitches were reported. With a larger number of participants, the finish-line crowd was also larger and made for a more celebratory atmosphere.

The standout runners were Rich Nelly, 53, of Lake Tapps, who bested the second-place male in the 50K by more than an hour, and German-born super-athlete Sabine Pullins, an Army wife from Joint Base Lewis-McChord, easily won the women’s 50K to add to a string of spring victories. The 50-mile men’s winner was Gabe Wishnie of Redmond.

By acclamation, the best volunteer muffin maker was Theresa Downs, wife of Coalition Board Member John Downs. Downs himself expertly captained several exchange stations. Dixie Gatchel enthusiastically peddled fundraising bags of ground coffee. Town Councilmember Becky Gilbert was an energetic and cheerful crew chief at the Wilkeson exchange.

President’s Message

by Buzz Grant, Coalition President

I would like to thank those members that renewed their 2011 memberships to the Foothills Rails to Trails Coalition, as without your continued support we could not exist. Some of you who still receive the Trail Line News have not yet renewed your membership. We do send the news letter to former members, for a time, in the hope that circumstances change and you are able to renew your membership to continue supporting trails. Our main goal is to make amenities to the Pierce County trail system with funds available at the time.

So what has the Coalition done with the money that members have entrusted to the board of directors and officers?

Present:

• Working with Pierce County to create a new standardized map for all of the trailheads. This will be an expenditure of a little over a $4,000 dollars.

• In 2011, partnered with the City of Orting and Tacoma Wheelmen to provide safety improvements at intersections of the Foothills Trail and City streets the trail crossed.

Past:

• Utilized funds to purchase land benefitting the Foothills Trail which the County could not purchase due
Letter to the Editor

Letter to the Editor
Puyallup Herald
May 11, 2011

After successful event, the Riverwalk Trail is no longer a ‘best-kept secret.’

Fifty years ago we bought a home near the Puyallup River. For us one of the positive developments over these years has been the Riverwalk Trail.

It has added quality to our neighborhood and given us the opportunity to recreate, enjoy nature and the outdoors, meet with neighbors and make new friends. In some respects the trail has been a “best kept secret.”

However, on Saturday, April the 30th we participated in the Riverwalk event with 500 to 600 others in walking, running, bicycling, skateboarding and sharing in the many community resources.

We particularly appreciated the participation of community business’s, agencies and the “fishermen” who cleaned up the river and river banks of litter and trash. The Event was a success and the Riverwalk Trail is no longer a “best kept secret.” Come enjoy it with us.

Diane and Bob Kastama
During the May 3rd meeting the committee discussed the following items:

1. Pacific Avenue Improvements. Several of us have been attending Tacoma City meetings related to improving Pacific Avenue with new storm water systems and either new bike lanes or a CycleTrack. The CycleTrack looks like a trail on the westerly side of Pacific. It would be very nice as it links the Prairie Line Trail and Esplanade Trail to Ruston Way. Apparently, it would cost quite a bit more than bike lanes since special signaled crossings would be required along the way.

2. Vulnerable Users Bill. This bill gives additional protection to pedestrians and cyclists. It has been passed and signed into law by the Governor. More information is found at the Bicycle Alliance website.

3. Swan Creek Park. Steve Brown and I continue to work on the new plan for the park. The plan calls for a north-south trail on the high ground above the creek. This trail would link to the Pipeline Trail through the road system creating a loop trail.

4. Dixie Spur/JEB III Thruway. We continue to work with officials in Puyallup to create a trail spur from Shaw Road to 134th. If you live in Puyallup, you should be lobbying your City Council to identify a bike route system in the downtown area. Puyallup Riverwalk Trail is considered to be a major part of the effort to redevelop the area at River Road and Meridian. There is a major study going on where your input is very important.

5. Sumner Trails. The City will be building two segments of the trail system in the coming months. One is near downtown and the other is north of downtown.

6. Foothills Trail in South Prairie. There is progress in identifying a route through the trailer park in South Prairie. Hopefully, the project to get to Buckley will soon come together.

7. The Coalition for Active Transportation (CAT) meets once a month. The last two meetings have focused on issues in Fife, Puyallup, and Northeast Tacoma. We are trying to find a way to build trail coming down from Northeast Tacoma and connecting with future trails in Fife.

8. Narrows Bridge. WSDOT may be interested in working with the Peninsula Park District to provide trail connections under the bridge. Such connections would allow easier access to the Cushman Trail.

9. Delin Street. Carla and I have been attending meetings with Sounder Train designers and the City of Tacoma to make sure cyclists have adequate detours while Pacific Avenue is being lowered to make way for the Sounder Trail. We also want to make sure we have an adequate bike transportation system when the construction work is done. Delin Street is a popular route to the Lincoln District. The street will disappear near Pacific Avenue, but will still be present higher up and we are working on a way to access the upper street.

It is really nice now that June is here. Remember to Cycle More and Worry Less. Bring someone new to one of our great rides. We are still looking for ways to grow the TWBC.

Next committee meeting is scheduled June 7th at the Harvester Restaurant in the Stadium District at First and Tacoma Avenues. Come join us.

“Some succeed because they are destined to; most succeed because they are determined to.”
- Anatole France
Networking for Trails:

Edgewood & Milton Interurban

by Diane Kerlin

Construction for Phase 1 of the Edgewood portion of the Interurban Trail should be ready to go to bid before April 15th. Preparation for all the requirements of this federal money was thrown into a time crunch which worried a lot of folks. This has been delayed and funding continued so many times that there was a real danger of losing it. There would be no more renewals. The bid ad date for the basic design construction of the accompanying trailhead park, Jovita Crossroads Park, is April 30th. This will apply RCO funding. Both of these parts have been scaled back as costs have risen since the original grant proposals were submitted, but it’s a beginning.

At the April 26th meeting of the Edgewood Council a motion was approved authorizing the City Manager to negotiate an agreement with Skillings Connolly, Inc. to provide both construction management and inspection services for the Interurban Trail and Jovita Crossroads Trailhead Park project. In the event an agreement was not reached with Skillings Connolly, Inc., the Edgewood Council authorized negotiations with another firm. The action relates to the section of trail from 114th Avenue to the King County line, and the park property on 114th. At this same meeting, City Manager, Mark Bauer, reported that staff had met with property owners along the trail, and confirmed a fence along the trail will be necessary.

New Funding for Trails

by John S. Selby, Board Member

Congratulations to the communities of Sumner and Eatonville. An article in the News Tribune on May 26th, announced the state capital-construction budget, which the Senate sent to the Governor, included money to fund non-motorized trails in their areas - $979,000 for Sumner’s link in a trail from Mount Rainier to Seattle and $700,000 for a trail in Eatonville. Here’s hoping the Governor signs it, and we get more of the same for other Pierce County communities in the future. Thank your State Senators and let them know how you feel about future funding of trails.

But it gets even better. The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) has awarded a matching grant to the City of Sumner. The money will be used to complete sections four and five linking the north end of the existing trail along the White River to Stewart Road, including a bridge across the river. Bids for construction are scheduled to go out in June.

And better still. The town of Eatonville is also providing a matching grant for their project and the estate of Bud Blanchard is giving $500,000 as well to build the Bud Blanchard Trail, a 2.3-mile trail from Eatonville to Pack Forest. According to Bob Myrick, Bud, a unicycle rider and chief mechanic at the airport, once rode his 50-pound bicycle around the entire perimeter of the United States, and was also famous for carrying a folding bike strapped to the struts under his small airplane wings.
Meet Your Board Members

Dave Seago

Former newspaperman and active cyclist Dave Seago joined the Coalition board earlier this year after a long history of being a Foothills Trail supporter.

When the Pierce County Council was considering the proposed trail back in the 1980’s, Dave met several times with trail founders and wrote supportive editorials for The News Tribune. The News Tribune continued to back the trail when opponents tried to kill it with a voter referendum. Once the first trail segment was built, Dave’s family became Coalition members and often drove from Tacoma to enjoy family bike rides on the new trail. Dave retired as the TNT’s editorial page editor in 2008. The following summer he and his wife, Anne, made an independent, self-supported bike tour from Tacoma to Boston -- 4,500 miles in 85 days.

Dave and Anne are active members of the Tacoma Wheelmen, and Dave served as marketing director for this year’s Daffodil Classic Ride. He is president of The ForeverGreen Council, a group which advocates for a countywide system of bike-pedestrian trails, and also serves on the City of Tacoma’s Bicycle and Pedestrian Action Committee. Recently elected as a supervisor for the Pierce Conservation District, Dave serves on the board of the Washington Coalition for Open Government and as a Pierce County trustee for the Cascade Land Conservancy.

Dave’s resolution when he retired was to, “spend less time in meetings and more time getting my hands dirty.” While the spend less time in meetings part has not gone completely according to plan, grubbing in the dirt to plant trees and shrubs for stream restoration projects and to remove English ivy and blackberry bushes from Tacoma parks are still his favorite volunteer activities.

Diane Kastama

Aside from travel I have spent my 76 years living on the west coast. I grew up enjoying biking, hiking, swimming, camping, any activity in the out of doors. My professional career was as a registered nurse.

I have been married to Bob Kastama for 55 years. We have three grown children and eight grandchildren. Most of our married life we have lived in Puyallup.

Our lives have centered around the amenities of the Northwest. I joined the Tacoma Mountaineers in 1969 and graduated from the Alpine and basic courses. I have been an eager supporter of our trail systems both for recreation and daily exercise.

It is my privilege to serve on the Board of the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition.
Hi Everyone,

2011 was another breakthrough year for the Rainier to Ruston Rail-Trail Relay and Ultra when the race exploded with a new record turnout. National Trails Day was celebrated by volunteers and participants, besting the previous record by more than 240 runners and walkers. The course was attacked by more than 40 walkers walking 15.6 miles in three legs to South Prairie, 26 ultras running 50K from South Prairie to Ruston Way, and 53 ultras and 107 teams of runners going the whole 51 miles from the Tacoma Mountaineers’ parking lot near the Carbon River entrance at Mount Rainier National Park to Marine Park on Ruston Way.

There were actually 13 new course records set and three old records broken which can be viewed at the Rainier to Ruston Rail-Trail Relay and Ultra website (http://www.rainiertoruston.com/).

We did experience a few mishaps along the way and want to apologize for those who got off course, or came in to an exchange only to find it broken down and without support. I also learned we fell short with the course staying open until the last contestant passed the bell with at least three people. As the race director, I apologize for this miscommunication and want to assure runners and walkers that we have already begun planning for next year’s event so this will not happen again.

In closing, congratulations to all the winners, participants, and volunteers who pulled off another great race! See you next year on National Trails Day for R2R 2012 and the 10 anniversary, on June 2, 2012!!

Sincerely, Rob Hester
Race Director
Relay and Ultra June 4th, 2011

Thank You’s

Rob and John,

Thank you for a truly fantastic event! I had just as much fun running “solo” as I did running with my team last year. This is by far the most well-organized, best-supported, and overall GOOD TIME FUN running event I have participated in over the years.

Being a (slow) first-time ultra runner, the support provided (early start... no cut-off for finishing... salt and potatoes... cheery volunteers at every aid station... handshake at the end) was priceless. You really know how to make a runner feel special!

My legs are recovered and the chaffing spots will heal soon enough - but the memories of R2R 2011 will last a lifetime :) (Sorry - got a little cheesy on you).

Thanks again - looking forward to playing again next year. I’ll try to be faster ;)

Thanks for the awesome experience. In the last 2 years since I (re-started) running, I’ve lost 100 pounds, recaptured my fitness & life, ran lots of assorted race distances, ran my first marathon, etc... your race by far has been my favorite; and I can’t wait for next year.

Cheers from Federal Way,
Douglas Pariseau
Families in Motion Day on the Puyallup River Walk
by Dixie Gatchel, Coalition Coordinator for Active Transportation

There is nothing like a day in the sun with the participants in the 2nd annual Families in Motion Day on the Puyallup Riverwalk Trail to buoy my old trail loving spirit. For a photo view of the happenings at the April 30th event please google our Facebook page at “Friends of the Puyallup Riverwalk.” Thanks to young Isaac Kastama for setting up the page – and trying to teach us “old timers” how to survive it. Vendors and participants alike indicated the event was both worthwhile and fun. There was one serious glitch: at 8:00 a.m., the bathroom was locked, and the Daffodil Valley Volkssports walkers were ready to go! On the walk that is. Remedying this situation will be on top of our “to do” list for the 3rd annual Families in Motion Day, on April 28, 2012.

Are you as interested in what leads to events, such as Families in Motion on the Riverwalk, going annual? Thanks to Ernie Bay and Bob Kastama, long time Puyallup resident trail activists, for forming Friends of the Riverwalk in fall 2010. They invited friends from the Foothills Trail Coalition to join them at Monday morning breakfast meetings. Officers were elected with Ernie and Bob serving as co-chairs and Diane Kastama as secretary. The goal was to help take care of the trail and advocate for improvements and funding. In spring 2010, Senator Jim Kastama, who grew up in a home near the trail, donated $1000 to the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition. Jim’s initial idea was to introduce young families to the Puyallup Riverwalk by setting up small tables on the trail over an extended period to dispense maps along with cocoa for the kids and coffee for the adults. Piece of cake, right?

Our group was somewhat surprised when, as the plans were taking shape, the overall number of folks interested in participating began to grow. We were as green as grass in understanding the enormous amount of work and skill it takes to put on such an event, but were saved when the City of Puyallup took an interest in the event. With the guidance and skill of its talented staff the first Families in Motion Day held May 22, 2010, was a success despite the lousy weather. They had taught us how it was done!

In fall of 2010, Senator Kastama took on the task of training members of the Foothills Trail Coalition in the Performance Management System. Jim facilitated the process as we chose our vision - Trails Uniting Communities - as well as our mission and goals for success. In December 2010, the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition voted unanimously to absorb the Friends of the Riverwalk as a standing committee, effective 01/01/11, thus enabling requests for 501(c)(3) donations.

In 2011, good things continued to happen. City of Puyallup Manager, Ralph Dannenberg, not only agreed to co-sponsor the event, but also provided the excellent music from Edsel’s rock and roll band. Ralph appointed Puyallup parks event coordinator, Lona Graves, as our mentor and point of contact with the city. With excellent guidance from Lona, as well as that of parks manager, Jim Weber, we did most of the required work by ourselves. Additional co-sponsors came on board, including Puyallup Goodwill Store; Fred Meyer “Neighbor to Neighbor” fund; YMCA of Pierce and Kitsap Counties; and Jim Kastama Beat the Senator 3.6K Fun Run. Friends of Riverwalk surpassed goals we had set to double the number of vendors, attendees, and the amount of donations in cash and in-kind. The number of vendors last year was 10 and this year numbered 26. Everything was free for vendors and participants alike, and we hope to keep it that way. Needed supplies and services were all purchased locally. All outstanding bills are paid and there is over $800 remaining in the kitty. Whew!

My fervor for finding funding for Active Transportation from that other Washington was losing fire. After the exhilarating success of the 2nd Annual Families in Motion Day on the Riverwalk, I am fired up and ready to go. I refuse to waste energy wringing my hands and crying because the money well in the federal coffers is either running on dry or on life support. Let’s seek funding from the multitude of private foundations and other local sources that exist right here in our own beautiful, trail-loving State of Washington. A few dollars here and a few dollars there can add up. The Foothills Trail Coalition is forming a grantsmanship committee which will focus on finding funding to that end for the

Continued on Page 13

What is Active Transportation?

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Meetings:

Monthly Board Meetings:
Open to all members and are generally held on the 4th Thursday from 7-9 p.m. at the Puyallup Public Library, south entrance. Monthly meetings may be rescheduled, so check our website at www.piercecountytrails.org for changes.

Charlie Chat - Weekly Luncheon:
Informal luncheons from 12-1 p.m. at Charlie’s Restaurant, 113 East Main, Puyallup. All are welcome to come and share what they have been doing to promote the mission of the Coalition. No business is conducted even if a quorum of members is present.

Courtesy Patrol Meetings:
Scheduled on 2nd Saturday of each month at High Cedars Golf Course, 149th St. Ct. E., Orting. No-host breakfast starts at 8 a.m. and the casual meeting at 9 a.m. with a free-for-all discussion about the past, present and future of the Courtesy Patrol. Guest speakers and training sessions are often included. Contact Jerry Larson at 253-845-7219 or Capt2Wheeler@comcast.net.

Friends of the Riverwalk Committee:
We are an informal group of volunteers devoted to the enjoyment and betterment of the Puyallup Riverwalk. Please join us for breakfast on most Monday mornings* at 9 a.m. at Applini’s, 1037 N. Meridian, Puyallup. Please note that we may change the venue of this luncheon. Continue to check the website (http://www.piercecountytrails.org/) for the latest information.

*call prior to confirm in case of cancellation.
Ernie Bay 253-848-7718 bugtrail@aol.com
Bob Kastama 253-435-1637 kastamaq@gmail.com
Puyallup City Parks 253-841-5447

Events:

June 30th - Engle Backyard Potluck Picnic from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Engle Garden, 4011 Alameda Avenue, University Place. No RSVP necessary. Rain does not cancel. Helen Engle, 253-564-3112, hengle@iinet.com (e-mail preferred).

July 16 - Wilkeson’s 36th Annual Handcar Race Event is right around the corner! Parade starts at 11am. The Seattle Cossacks Motorcycle Stunt and Drill is back! New family entertainment from noon to 5pm. Evening entertainment will take place at the Wilkeson Saloon, Pick n’ Shovel, and Wilkeson Eagles. Applications for this event (vendors, races, parade) available online at www.townofwilkeson.com

Work Parties RSVP to Don Partington at 253-820-8411 or cedarfamily@comcast.net
BicycleRecycle Changes Direction

BY GERALD R. LARSON, PRESIDENT OF BICYCLERECYCLE

March 14, 2011

Many new small, medium, and large bicycle seats have been matched up with smiles of recipients from ages of three to 80 and the adventure of cycling as a result of the work of BicycleRecycle, 335 bicycles to be exact. Founded in January 2009 by Gerald Larson (a.k.a. Captain 2-Wheeler), BicycleRecycle concluded operation in March 2011. The project refurbished donated bicycles and will continue through “Bikes for Kids.”

Guess what, you can purchase new lower-end bicycles for less than the typical cost of repairing and replacing the deficient parts of an old one. The only way to continue this worthwhile work was to select a similar operation doing double or triple our volume. It quickly became apparent this was “Bikes for Kids,” referred to us by Tacoma Wheelman and Coalition member, Bob Myrick. Volume repair became the economical answer to avoiding a landfill full of large numbers of bikes. “Bikes for Kids” processes as many bikes in a year as BicycleRecycle processed in three years. They have a three-floor operation with nine bike vises and corresponding volunteers working three to four mornings per week.

On a bittersweet note, Joanie and Richard Harrellson resigned as bike distributor and mechanic, respectively. Health and residential restrictions made it prohibitive for them to continue working on this worthwhile project. The Harrellsons were recognized for their excellent work at the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition Courtesy Patrol meeting on February 12th, at High Cedars Golf Club. They received a beautiful commemorative trophy presented by Ed Davis with the statement, “Here’s to a job well done, Joanie and Richard, for without your charitable contributions there would be over 25 dozen less peddlers with big smiles on their faces.” Richard still plans to continue being active on the Courtesy Patrol, so keep your eyes open for him along the Foothills Trail.

March 8, 2011

Dear Jerry Larson:

Thanks for visiting our Marine View Presbyterian Church “Bikes for Kids” Program bike shop a couple of weeks ago. We appreciate the contact between you and Jim Weger and, of course, the Tacoma Wheelmen. Your organization and members have been supportive of our program and have enabled us to contribute much more to the community than we otherwise would have been able to do. Your monetary contributions helped us to get a better trailer and a large number of helmets for kids. Member volunteers (mainly Jim Weger and his wife, Jan, and Joe Small) have contributed to our expertise and the fellowship we all enjoy while preparing bikes for deserving children and adults.

Today our guys picked up over 35 bikes, frames and supplies from BicycleRecycle. I understand there is more to come. Thank you for your generosity. We want you to know that we will refurbish and distribute the bicycles in the community, just as you would have liked to do. Thank you from all of us.

Very truly yours,

Bill Peterson

Marine View Presbyterian Church, Bikes for Kids
8469 Eastside Drive N.E.
Tacoma, WA 98422
**Courtesy Patroll Report**

*by Gerald R. Larson, Courtesy Patrol Chairman*

Foothills Rails-to-Trails founders and volunteers can be proud if Saturday, April 30th, and Sunday, May 1st were any indication as to the diversity of activities and participants who took advantage of the mild, sunny weather at the Riverwalk Festivities and along the Foothills Trail meandering to South Prairie.

Here are some of my diverse observations as a Courtesy Patroller along the trail over those two days: band, speaker’s rostrum, children, endurance athletes, vendor booths, baby strollers, horseback riders, Ortig chainsaw art, walkers, runners, emu, REI Rest Stop, Voight Creek, Puyallup and Carbon Rivers, dogs on leashes, skate boarders, families walking, rhubarb farms, bridges, vintage auto, bike riders, Christmas tree farms, eagles, police and firemen, South Prairie Creek, and, of course, spectacular views of Mt. Rainier.

The courtesy of the trail users as well as the drivers of vehicles crossing the trail were exceptional with smiles, laughter, and hand waves conveyed by all.

I believe both the adjacent property owners and trail users have learned to respect each other in the dual needs of the maturing trail.

It does not get any better than this, so let’s hold onto and cherish these experiences as we build the trail on to Buckley and Mount Rainier.

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**Work Parties**

*by Don Partington, Coalition Member*

Work Parties on the Foothills Trail this spring have been geared toward preparing the trail for the Rainier to Ruston Relay (R2R). After the R2R we’ll have a bit more relaxed schedule.

Personnel assisting with trail maintenance pictured from left to right: Bill Harmon, Russ Matthews, Speedy, John Selby, George Sleet, Tom Faubion.

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**Mileage Chart**

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Never doubt that a small group of committed people can change the world.
Indeed it is the only thing that ever has.

Margaret Mead
Thanks to Mr. Tom Felkins for submitting a photo he recently took of a horse drawn buggy being driven by a youngster, accompanied by an adult, enjoying the day traveling along the Foothills Trail in Orting.

Trailshots

We made his day!
Proud bicycle winner Kyran Johnson (left) beams as he wins a bicycle donated by Puyallup South Hill WallMart at this year’s Puyallup Riverwalk Celebration ‘Trails Unit ing Communities.’

Pictured above are Puyallup Police Scouts Laura Basley, Josh Guyette, with Bob Kastama, co-chair, Friends of the Riverwalk Committee.

Photo by Dixie Gatchel

Pictured above are Foothills Rails-to-Trails activists Dixie Gatchel, John Selby and Coalition president, Buzz Grant, discuss trails with Fife City Mayor Barry Johnson at Fife’s first Trails Awareness Day. The event put on by the Fife Parks Department was held Saturday, May 14. Foothills Trail Coalition members turned out in force to network with Fife officials and other local trail enthusiasts. Several supportive politicians including Senator Jim Kastama and newly elected state Representative from Puyallup, Hans Zeiger also attended.

Picture by Ernest Bay, Co-Chair, Friends of the Riverwalk
to government regulations. While we took a small loss when the land was resold to the County this unselfish act served as a good investment in the trail system as a whole.

- Paid to extend asphalt paving in a few cases because adding a 1000 feet when the contractor had their equipment on site was much more economical for us and the extension was outside of the County budget.

- Purchased equipment to maintain undeveloped portions of the Trail owned by the County but not maintained by them. (End of the asphalt in Buckley through Loop/Bow Tie to the Bridges to Nowhere and a little east of Cascade Junction through Wilkeson to Carbonado)

There has been consideration by the Coalition of purchasing land that can be developed for trail purposes. This requires a great deal of thought as to which parcels to consider acquiring, correct procedures, and the benefit(s) to our members. As we all know land is expensive, and we will need to raise money prior to making an offer or make a partnership. Yes, we do have some property in mind, but as an axiom in real estate and poker, we do not show our cards.

To go in this direction we will need your monetary help and support. This is not a new approach as there are a number of trail organizations throughout the country utilizing this approach. If we all work together we will not only be building a trail now, but for future generations to come.

My sincere thanks and please trust your board of directors and renew your membership if you haven’t already done so.

Buzz Grant  
Coalition President

Memberships/Donations

Heidi & Jerry Althauser  
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Families in Motion Continued from Page 8

Pierce County Active Transportation Regional Network devised by our Dream Team. Stay tuned!

In the meantime, let’s continue to lobby our congressperson for re-enactment of SAFETEA-LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Act: A Legacy for Users). Do you ever wonder how much we pay the geniuses devoted to coming up with these long-winded acronyms? The basic SAFETEA-LU is currently extended until September 30, 2011. The future is in peril. Have faith!
Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition
P.O. Box 192
Puyallup, WA 98371-0021

Membership makes a difference!
The work we are doing is made possible because of your membership and generous support. Credit cards accepted.

$200 Corporate (Includes a 1 year ad in the Trail Line)
$100 Trail Builder
$50 Pathfinder
$30 Family
$20 Single

The mission of the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition is to assist Pierce County communities in the creation, maintenance and usage of a connected system of non-motorized trails for healthier people from Mt. Rainier to Puget Sound.

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P.O. Box 192,
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