President’s message
Bay announces ‘retirement’

It’s time to pass the torch; my term limits have expired. Eighteen years ago this month, a small band of embattled trail advocates sat strategizing over lunch with Pierce County Parks Director, Jan Wolcott, discussing how to prevail over a determined and already well-organized opposition. Citizens Against The Trail, as the group eventually incorporated, was an assemblage of farmers, railroad adjacents, and private property interests, most of whom at the time had no legitimate standing as to the subject trail corridor. After the meeting, Jan approached me and advised that, in order for the county to succeed in acquiring and developing the trail, his department needed a partner. He needed a formal, volunteer, citizen support group, and he wanted me to help form and lead such a group. Devoted as I was to the cause, I quickly obliged.

At the second public trail meeting held in Orting, the president of CAT walked up to me glaring and hissed, “Are you still here?!” Little did either of us dream that 18 years later I would still be here, pursuing what I believe to be today an indispensable element in our community’s transportation and recreational infrastructure.

Many people, including CAT president Mary Harris, have come and gone these past 18 years, but we do have a trail, and today few can imagine the region without it. Helping lead the way to this accomplishment has been one of my life’s proudest and more satisfying involvements. However, it is time to let others share the rewards of leading the way into the future. New challenges require new ideas, new strengths and new energies. Our bylaws call for officer term limits, and by the concurrence of previous boards I have more than exceeded mine. I am happy to say that I will continue on the board as Immediate Past President, and at age 75 I am seeking

Foothills Trail site of benefit walk May 14

Pierce County Parks and Recreation along with Good Samaritan Hospital and the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition will co-host the second annual Walk for the Benefits along the Foothills Trail to promote healthy lifestyles and provide a fun family outing. The walk begins and ends at the Orting Park along Hwy 162. Walkers may set their own goals from one to 12 miles.

Check-in and registration begins at 7:45 a.m. Pre-registered walkers will check in at the start of the walk. Walkers may start the walk any time between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.. The rest area and shuttle service will close at 11 a.m.. Registration will close at noon. Because of safety concerns, bicycles, scooters, skates and skateboards will not be allowed.

Walk honoree
Each year the organizing committee dedicates the walk to an individual or family. The 2005 walk is dedicated to Amy Blair, age 15. She is presently receiving treatment at the Good Samaritan Hospital Children’s Therapy Unit.

Registration
Pre-registration is for those who register by May 2. The cost is $4 per person up to a maximum of $12 per family. Children three years and under are free. After May 2 the cost is $6 per person up to $18 per family. Again, children three and under are free. Registration includes a bracelet ticket, refreshments at the three mile point rest area, shuttle service back to Orting, sponsor coupons and, for those who pre-register, an opportunity to purchase a T-shirt. Pre-registration envelopes must be postmarked by May 2 and mailed to:

Pierce County Parks and Recreation
Walk for the Benefits
9112 Lakewood Dr. SW #121
Lakewood, WA 98499

Group rates are available for groups of 20 or more at $2 per person. Groups must pre-register. If you would like to pre-register or join

continued on next page
President’s message (continued)

no new careers. My plan and passion is to continue with the Coalition and other organizations in advancing our region’s trail network.

As of this writing our new president is yet to be elected, but given the candidates, I am confident that our Coalition will continue in capable hands.

In closing, I want to express my very special thanks to Pierce County Parks Director, Jan Wollcott, for his shared vision, his friendship, his persistent optimism and his able guidance. Together we have forged a model private/public partnership without which there would be no Foothills Trail.—Ernie Bay

Benefit walk (continued)

the Rails-to-Trails Coalition group, please contact John Downs at 360-897-2617 or Ed Davis at 253-862-7982. Volunteers are always needed. If you can assist with the event, please contact Cara Cross, Event Coordinator, at 253-798-4739 or Ed Davis.

Proceeds for the event will be shared with Pierce County Parks, Good Samaritan Hospital and the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition.—John Downs

National Trails Day planned June 4

Enjoy National Trails Day together. What better way than with a team of your family, friends or colleagues, walking or running in the third annual Rainier to Ruston Rail-Trail Relay? You can enjoy both the camaraderie of friendly team competition and the Foothills Trail while raising money to speed its completion.

On National Trails Day, June 4, the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition will open its third annual Rainier-to-Ruston Rail-Trail Relay to public participation. We have received the official sanction by USA Track and Field, and we have lined up three significant sponsors: Fleet Feet Sports in Bonney Lake ($2000 in-kind and cash donations), Pierce County Parks and Recreation and Starbucks (indicated an interest in hosting the finish line celebration).

The purpose of this event is to raise public awareness and funds to achieve our mission of completing this beautiful, public, non-motorized trail from Mt. Rainier to Puget Sound. The race follows the old Northern Pacific railroad corridor and challenges teams of up to six runners to travel 50 miles by foot (two legs of about four miles each) from the Carbon River entrance of Mt. Rainier National Park to Marine Park on Tacoma’s Ruston Way. Walking teams will do six legs of about four miles each from the Park to Orting, then drive to Ruston Way. Team sizes can be one to six people. Single walkers will do all 27 miles to Orting; single runners (ultras) will run the entire 50-mile distance solo.

Awards will be given three deep in 12 divisions by team size (number of positions), type (walkers, runners and ultras) and generosity of donations --gold-painted railroad spikes for 1st place, silver for 2nd, and bronze for 3rd. First place team members will also receive gift certificates from Fleet Feet Sports in Bonney Lake.

To add to the fun and help draw public attention to the trail, participants will pull a cord and ring a railroad bell as they pass under bell stands located in towns along the course. See pictures of the bell stands and read about previous years’ private relays on our web site at www.rainiertoruston.com, where you will also find details of our plans for 2005.

Mark your calendars, start

continued on next page

How to reach the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition

Web page:
http://piercecountytrails.org/
Address:
P.O. Box 192, Puyallup, WA 98371-0021
Telephone number: 253-841-2570
E-mail address: bugtrail@aol.com

We want to hear from you!
Trails Day (continued)

recruiting a team and begin
dreaming of winning the coveted
golden spike! —John S. Selby,
race director

Letter received

The trail is coming along
wonderfully. Thanks for keeping
at the job of making it happen.—
Lauren Tolle-Bulley

The Foothills Trail Coalition is
a 501(c)(3) Corporation.

CALENDAR

Monthly Meetings
March 24, April 28, May 26
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
Walk for the Benefits
May 14
Rainier-to-Ruston Relay
June 4
National Trails Day
June 4
TrailLink 2005
July 27-30
Minneapolis / St. Paul

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://piercecountytrails.org/

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Or email bugtrail@aol.com
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Megan Power does her part as one of 27 University of Puget Sound
students who turned out on February 5 to add several hundred
more plants to the South Prairie Creek wetlands mitigation area.

$15 to $18 million for Puget Sound

ISTEA pending reauthorization

It has been a long three-year wait, but the transportation enhance-
ments' train is about to leave the station.

The Transportation Enhancements program, first known as ISTEA,
Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act, was created in
1991 as part of the Federal Transportation Act. The program, which is
administered by the states, requires that ten percent of highway allo-
cation moneys be spent on non-traditional projects, including rail
trails, pedestrian facilities, historic preservation and other transporta-
tion amenities.

The program has now gone through two full six-year cycles and
has been delayed going into its present cycle, pending reauthoriza-
tion of the Federal Transportation Budget.

The initial program came at a propitious time for the Foothills Trail,
which has benefited from several grants that have funded phases,
including property acquisition, design and construction. Enhance-
ments grants are highly competitive and require matching dollars
from sponsoring organizations. All grant applications submit to rigor-
ous screening by a citizen advisory committee, which in our case is
appointed and managed by the Puget Sound Regional Council.

All Enhancements grants for our trail have been won and adminis-
tered by the Pierce County Parks and Recreation Department with
the assistance and contributions of the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coali-
tion.

Transportation Enhancement money for the Puget Sound Region
in the forthcoming cycle is estimated to be between $15 and $18 mil-

——Ernie Bay
Networking for Trails

Edgewood Interurban

The Edgewood City Council has selected Bruce Dees & Associates to do the master plan for the Edgewood portion of the Interurban Trail. Council member Sue Miller, head of the City’s Parks Committee, has compiled a list of ten potential members of a citizen committee to work with the Dees team. She is still looking for an Edgewood resident who is an equestrian and interested in being on this committee. If that's you, please call Diane Kerlin at 253-863-3734. Final selection of the committee will be made shortly by the full city council.—Diane Kerlin

Puyallup Riverwalk

Phase 4 of the Puyallup Riverwalk remains on schedule for this summer. Construction bids were advertised on February 10 with bid opening set for March 3. Bids for the final phase, between SR512 and the Sumner Bridge at Stortini’s Restaurant are pending two final property settlements and should be advertised in May.—Ernie Bay

Swan Creek

Mary and William Haire, two of our strongest Foothills Trail sponsors in past years, were largely instrumental in the preservation of this relatively hidden treasure. Part of the canyon trail was washed out during the heavy rains in January. The Friends of the Swan Creek Watershed are working with Metro Parks on a trail reroute plan, and trail work will begin soon. Call or email us if you want to be contacted when the work party dates are set. Also, mark your calendars for March 19 for a family hike in Swan Creek Park, led by Tahoma Audubon Society. Contact them directly for details.—Sue Bernstein, Coordinator, Friends of the Swan Creek Watershed, sue.b@prodigy.net

Milton

The design being done by our trail consultant is still not complete, and there have been no design details divulged about the potentially troublesome areas. The ADA issue (steep trail grade) near 380th Street is still unresolved, the permitting process is expected to take a year and has not yet begun and the June 30, 2005, deadline for the IAC grant extension is inching closer.

Our Public Works Director has advised the city council that it is unlikely that work can be started in 2005, but on the bright side she has contacted the legislators from our area to request the IAC to give us another grant extension. Some council members have suggested that in order to not lose the entire remaining grant funding, we should do the western portion of the trail where there are a minimum of design and permit difficulties. This seems logical, but our director suspects this may not meet IAC requirements, which specified that the entire trail project be developed with the grant.—Milton Loflin

Sumner

Sumner is working to bring the Interurban Trail from King County down to link with the Puyallup Riverwalk and the Foothills Trail.

"Sumner budgeted $500,000 this year for construction of a one-mile trail along the White River toward the Puyallup River," said John Doan, assistant city administrator. The city also has been studying a trail around its sewer plant that sits where the two rivers meet, as well as one over the bridge to Puyallup. In the northern part of Sumner, commercial developments have been building bits and pieces of the trail as well. It will connect to the Interurban Trail that runs through cities such as Pacific, Auburn and Tukwila, to the north."

Excerpted from an article by Eijiro Kawada in the News Tribune, Feb. 20, 2005.

continued on next page

Foothills Trail Coalition Board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>President</th>
<th>Ernie Bay</th>
<th>253-848-7718</th>
<th><a href="mailto:bugtrail@aol.com">bugtrail@aol.com</a></th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Ken Woolery</td>
<td>253-863-4774</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kwool@comcast.net">kwool@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Members</td>
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<td>253-761-9258</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tom@enlow.org">tom@enlow.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Marie Bailey Reed</td>
<td>253-847-8647</td>
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<td></td>
<td>John Downs</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Buzz Grant</td>
<td>253-845-4991</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Earl Mikkelson</td>
<td>253-862-4509</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mikkelse@mindspring.com">mikkelse@mindspring.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Olson</td>
<td>253-756-5065</td>
<td><a href="mailto:olson@cbhp.com">olson@cbhp.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Russ Matthews</td>
<td>253-939-1611</td>
<td><a href="mailto:russ-matthews@comcast.net">russ-matthews@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Paul Jacobson</td>
<td>253-848-5585</td>
<td>p <a href="mailto:ejay@nwlink.com">ejay@nwlink.com</a></td>
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Networking (continued)

McMillin to Meeker to Puyallup

Paving is expected to be completed this spring on a four-mile section of the Foothills Trail from the McMillin Trailhead to the Meeker Trailhead (near Van Lierops bulb farm) just east of Puyallup.

The eventual connection along 134th Ave. E. from Meeker to the Puyallup Riverwalk "seemed shaky only last fall when two daffodil farmers submitted a development application before the county could preserve their land as part of 31,000 acres of 'agricultural resource lands.' Although they don't plan to retire any time soon, the farmers said they wanted to avoid an open-space designation so they could sell their land for a higher price when the time is right. In the end, Puyallup and Pierce County worked out a deal that would allow the farmers to annex their land to the city and keep their development options open. In exchange, the city will draw up a plan for the farmland area that would leave at least 160 acres as open space. The trail connection is expected to run through that area."

Excerpted from an article by Eijiro Kawada in the News Tribune, Feb. 20, 2005.

Order a brick now!

There is still space for additional brick inscriptions on the bench of our Orting trail kiosk, but the order cut off date for 2005 engraving is June 15. Because the process is weather and quantity dependent, bricks are inscribed on site only once a year. This is normally scheduled in either late June or July.

Trail bricks are still $50 each. Memorial tree Designations are also $50 each, and may be ordered at any time.

Please see order form on the back of this newsletter.

Order a brick now!
Memberships and donations received

Many thanks to those members who have responded so promptly and generously to our recent call for membership renewals. As of mid-February 173 members have responded with a total of $7,714 dollars, including purchases of trees and bricks. This figure does not include several significant contributions that were received before sending out our mailing. Among these special thanks go to Dr. Stephen W. Brooks of Buckley for his gift of $500.

$18 - 25
Memberships (continued)


$26 - 50

Memberships (continued)


$51-100

$101 - 499

$ 500 +
Stephen W. Brooks.

Along the Foothills Trail...

Mild winter weather made for mostly perfect courtesy patrols over the past three months. However, we are always prepared for sudden changes, ready to add or subtract one or more of our four available layers of clothing should the weather turn sour. Icy conditions turned us around twice this past season, and I “chickened out,” to Clay’s disgust, on January 18, the day of the Big Flood. However, our enjoyment is fraught with dread as we contemplate the consequences of dealing with drought conditions far past summer unless humongous snow fall begins now.

Not to worry! None dare question the devotion and tenacity of the stellar souls, volunteer and professional, as they give hundreds of hours in sweat equity in caring for our unsurpassable Foothills Trail. Unite stellar souls! Think snow fervently! We surely have a shot at overcoming.

Heavy rain and snowmelt in mid-January sent the Carbon and Puyallup Rivers roaring down from Mount Rainier with frightening ferocity, thunderous as a herd of runaway freight trains. South Prairie Creek, a tributary abutting our trail, overwhelmed the mitigation ponds adjacent to the new REI rest stop, wiping out many of the plants placed by hundreds of good folks during the fall and just prior to the flooding. Disheartening? Yes! However, the trail lovers were back, with smiling faces, planting away on February 5 as if nothing had happened. Please watch the REI site for notice of additional Stream Team planting parties soon. Your help is needed.

As unwelcome and damaging as the flooding was, it did give our courtesy patrol a chance to shine on at least two occasions that we know about: The January flood left a thick deposit of lead-heavy mud all over our beautiful REI rest stop which had just been dedicated in November. The cleanup task appeared daunting and needing the services of the Pierce County Parks and Recreation good guys. Foothills volunteer courtesy team to the rescue! Brute force and elbow grease from Russ Matthews and his team of fearless mudmuckers, Bill Harmon, John Downs and Clay Gatchel, accomplished the task quickly and inexpensively. (Note from Clay: Dixie helped, too.) The site was clean swept and shipshape in no time thanks to Russ Matthews and his daughter Andrea Spooner. Thank you, Andrea. (Please see photos on p. 11)

Good News! New courtesy patrol vests and rack trunks will be distributed soon thanks to a

continued on next page
special targeted fund administered by the Tacoma Wheelmen. Initially, 12 vests and six trunks will be purchased, with more to be acquired as our patrol grows. The ever-supportive Bob Myrick, in addition to alerting us to the fund, also made our case for continuing courtesy patrol participation in the Safe Rider Campaign that was so successful in 2004. Safe Rider Citations, entitling the recipient to a free Subway deli-round, were given to 118 delighted children because they wore a properly-fitted helmet. Sadly, half of the riders we met along the trail and at the skateboard parks during the award period rode without helmets, a statistic that matches the national average. As ardent safety advocates, courtesy patrols are eager to protect our children (and their parents) by encouraging all to wear helmets. Besides, it’s the law!

This spring, the Foothills Coalition will send a letter, listing the names of the lucky Safe Rider kids, to the principals of the various schools of attendance. The letter will also ask for the help and advice of school officials in encouraging their students to wear helmets. The Safe Rider Campaign will begin in August and end December 31, 2005.

Happily, most trail users are eager to do their share in keeping our trail safe and clean so scofflaws are few during the crowd-free winter months. Problems reported to us recently include: (1) unrestrained, aggressive dogs, primarily coming from homes along the trail; (2) horse plop left on the trail to ripen; (3) platoon-type cyclists failing to yield to two-way traffic; (4) fast-moving cyclists failing to signal upon passing; and (5) motorized vehicles illegally traveling the trail, mostly at night. As trail stewards, without legal authority, we strive to educate ourselves and others in resolving the problems and setting a good example. Of course, the affected individual and/or witness to serious violations should report the incident to the law authority in the jurisdiction where the incident occurred. Shortage of personnel means that response by law officials may not always be timely or even available. However, if numerous citizen complaints are received on a specific topic, the lawmen will undoubtedly take note and respond appropriately with the best of resources available. Ultimately we are responsible for our own safety, so please take care.

On February 5, Gully Collier, eastbound on an early morning courtesy patrol, found the trail blocked by a large tree, about a half mile west of the dairy crossing. The tree had apparently broken from its rotten base and slipped down across the trail in heavy winds sometime during the prior night. Clay and I, eastbound on patrol, got the word from Gully, and the three of us reversed course and returned to the planting site to recruit help in removing the tree. Opportunely, George Sleet and Bill Harmon were cutting away at the log blocking South Prairie Creek with George’s chain saw. When that job was finished, George and Bill returned with us to tackle the tree. The tree was removed, with all traces, before you could say Paul Bunyon was a wimp. Those guys work harder than if they were getting paid for it!

It’s a given that trails link communities, leading to collective citizen activism and cooperation to accomplish common goals that benefit trail users and surrounding communities alike. However, the big plus for Clay and me is not only helping to keep the trail safe and well-maintained while we get our daily exercise, but also the joy of meeting interesting and caring fellow travelers to boot.

Peace out y’all and Happy Trails.—Dixie Gatchel

"Be like a postage stamp. Stick to one thing until you get there."
—Josh Billings

"Generosity is the flower of justice."—Nathaniel Hawthorne
From the saddle

Kudos to equestrian volunteers; future involvement needed

Equestrians have played an essential part in pioneering transportation routes throughout human history. Horses aided in finding the best routes across the continent, right down to identifying the best crossing for railroads over the Cascade mountain range. Here in eastern Pierce County rails complemented horses as the chief form of transportation for over 50 years before roads were built. Then, as use of railroads declined, horse riders came back to use the graceful grades and bridges that remained.

As rails were converted to trails, equestrian users were some of the first to experience complaints and protests from landowners near the old rail lines. Having a trail running past their property caused concern for some. As the Foothills Trail has come into fruition their concerns have been dealt with and now the trail is a welcome addition to our area. Those stories can be found in the Coalition's clipping file.

When Doug Tait and other supporters of the trail in Buckley set out to clear the line south of town, the equestrian group, Backcountry Horseman, were there pulling a lion's share of the work. More recently many others have become involved as well. When work on the line south of Orting was underway, the Holmes family was there. Randy Holmes committed time and energy to help rebuild the Wetlands Bridge as well as other projects. Horseman Warren Wire came out of the clear blue to offer his skills draining the swamp, a critical requirement for last year's paving. For three years the Backcountry Horsemen have been instrumental in providing equestrian input to trail issues. They have helped to clear off large amounts of debris and make repairs to the old rail line in the upper Carbon River valley years ahead of formal public interest. Last year they organized and lead 690 hours of volunteer trail work out there. Kudos to those volunteers.

I believe that more equestrian involvement is required to assure that future trail improvements are designed for horses. Consequently, I have rejoined the board of the Foothills Trail Coalition to give voice to equestrian trail users, and I continue to distribute the equestrian users guide and speak with fellow trail users.

At times the interest of equestrians in the Foothills Trail may seem to be missing. We are all busy in our day-to-day lives. But let me re-emphasize that it is vital that equestrians take part in the development of the plans and daily workings of the trail. There are places where equestrians did not participate and horses are no longer allowed on portions of trails. So let's make our presence and concerns known. Keep blazing a usable trail. Contact your Foothills Trail Coalition now!

Happy Trails—Linda Clark

Thank you, volunteers!

Earl Mikkelson reports that a total of 4,863 volunteer hours have been turned in to him for 2004. Undoubtedly, there were also many hours that were not reported, but this is impressive none the less.

Thanks to the following volunteers who recently participated in Fred Meyer's new Customer Rewards program at the Puyallup River Road store. Fred Meyer contributed $8 to the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition for each of the 72 hours that were volunteered—a total of $576.

Joan Miller, Ernie Bay, Don & Betty Warren, John Downs, Tom Enlow, Michael & Sharron McPhail, Art Robinson, Ron Celestres, Bob Myrick, Paul Jacobson, Rich Green, Clay & Dixie Gatchel, Marie Reed, Buzz Grant, Ken Woolery, Earl & Glory Mikkelson, Diane Kerlin, Ed Davis. Apologies to anyone we may have missed.

RTC has vision for change

Rails-to-Trails Conservancy opened its doors on February 1, 1986. At that time they had three staff, no members and there were only 250 miles of rail-trail in the U.S. Eighteen years later, RTC has 42 staff, more than 100,000 members and there are more than 12,500 miles of open rail-trail in all 50 states that are enjoyed by tens of millions of Americans every year.

This national movement, combined with a growing demand for healthier places for healthier people, appears to be on the verge of a "tipping point," a point in time when relatively modest action can lead to major results. RTC is seizing this moment by setting a new long-term goal: by 2020, 90 percent of Americans will live within three miles of a local network of public trails.

This goal is ambitious, but achievable. Visit their web site at www.railtrails.org and learn more about their activities and how you could help with a donation of money or time.—John S. Selby
(excerpted from RTC memorandum, Dec. 2004)
County and Coalition partner to purchase trail amenities

Wish to donate a rest stop or trail bench along the Foothills Trail? Frequently we receive inquiries from people wishing to honor or memorialize a friend or family member with a bench or rest stop along the Foothills Trail. As you travel the trail you may have noted that nearly all such items along the trail have been donated in this manner. Several have been surprise birthday gifts from spouses, and a few have been in memory of a lost partner, friend, parent or parents.

The Coalition has arranged with the Pierce County Parks Department to execute the purchase and installation of all trail furniture. Because these facilities benefit the trail and the community as a whole, the parks department is happy to provide the furniture at cost, and do the installation for a minimal fee. Current prices for rest stop furnishings are listed below.

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<td>with three attached chairs</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>handicap accessible (green)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bench - Diamond Bench</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bike Rack - 3 loop (green)</td>
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<td>BBQ - Extra-heavy duty</td>
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Persons wishing to arrange rest stop donations are invited to contact Jan Wolcott, Director, Pierce County Parks Department at 253-826-2460.

Dividends received

The Foothills Rails-To-Trails Coalition has just received a six months dividend check from the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation in the amount of $285.10. This represents half our earnings for the period, with the remainder reinvested.

Additional contributions to the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation Foothills Trail annuity established by Bob Myrick have increased the current capital to more than $14,000. Trail supporters wishing to add to the fund may contact the Foothills Rails-To-Trails Coalition at 253-841-2570.

REI rest stop prior to cleanup.

REI rest stop after cleanup.

South Prairie Creek photo taken January 18 by Russ Matthews. (Please see related story, “Along the Foothills Trail,” beginning on p. 8.)
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

Looking back 10 years

March 1995—Two unique pieces of Foothills Trail route have been acquired primarily using funds from the Pierce County Conservation Futures Account. One portion is a length of 2,400 linear feet of high dike in the Lower Burnett area between Buckley and South Prairie. This dike, with the former railroad line perched on top, is about 40 feet high in this area. This piece of land is inaccessible since South Prairie Creek lies at both ends and the trestles have been removed.

The other length is part of the former railroad spur between South Prairie and Wilkeson. This piece of future trail is adjacent to Gale Creek just south of the former railroad intersection named Cascade Junction. This piece is about 1,300 linear feet.

Efforts are continuing to obtain the entire route for the Foothills Trail.