



Meeting Date: August 26, 2013
 Agenda Item No:

<u>Kitsap County Board of Commissioners</u>		
Office/Department: Commissioners		
Staff Contact & Phone Number: Rebecca Pirtle (360) 337-4650 Lori Raymaker (360) 337-5372		
Agenda Item Title: PRESENTATION OF OUTSTANDING COUNTY GOVERNMENT VOLUNTEER AWARD		
Recommended Action: Present Outstanding County Government Volunteer Award to Tex Lewis.		
Summary:	Tex Lewis, a long-time Kitsap County Parks and Recreation Department volunteer and member of the Central Kitsap Community Council since 2002, was nominated for the Outstanding County Government Volunteer Award by Parks Stewardship Coordinator Lori Raymaker. This recognition comes after Tex's recent retirement from his leadership of the Clear Creek Task Force.	
Attachments:	Nomination Form and supplemental narrative	
Fiscal Impact for this Specific Action		
Expenditure required for this specific action:	NA	
Related Revenue for this specific action:	NA	
Cost Savings for this specific action:	NA	
Net Fiscal Impact:	NA	
Source of Funds:	NA	
Fiscal Impact for Total Project		
Project Costs:	NA	
Project Costs Savings:	NA	
Project Related Revenue:	NA	
Project Net Total:	NA	
<u>Fiscal Impact (DAS) Review</u>		
Departmental/Office Review & Coordination		
Department/Office	Representative	Recommendation/Comments
Commissioners	Rebecca Pirtle	Approve



Outstanding County Government Volunteer Award Nomination Form

Name of Nominator Lori Raymaker

County Department/Division or Agency Parks

Phone # 5372 Email Address lraymaker@co.kitsap.wa.us

Nominee - Tell us about your nominee:

Name of volunteer/s: Tex Lewis

Volunteer Program or position: _____

Street Address: _____

City: Silverdale Zip Code 98383 Phone # _____

Email Address: _____

Nominee's Story:

Please share your nominee's volunteer story. In 500 words or less please answer the following questions:

ACTION: What does your nominee do?

NEED: What county goal or community need does your nominee address?

IMPACT: What is different as a result of your nominee's service?

INSPIRATION: What makes your nominee unique or special?

Submit your nomination:

Please e-mail or send this completed form along with your nominee's story of service to Volunteer Services, rpirtle@co.kitsap.wa.us or MS-4. If you have questions or need assistance, contact Volunteer Services Coordinator Rebecca Pirtle at 337-4650.

Tex Lewis: 22 years of “Getting ‘er done!”

By Lori Raymaker, Kitsap County Parks & Recreation Stewardship Coordinator

Tex Lewis' name in Kitsap County is synonymous with Great Volunteer. Even though his volunteer services have extended far beyond the Clear Creek Trail, this is the project that his name is most commonly associated with in Kitsap County.

Tex has led the charge to develop a trail along the Clear Creek corridor and further north towards Poulsbo. The Clear Creek Trail has become a regional attraction for Silverdale, WA. Not only has Tex been able to establish this trail, but his biggest accomplishment has been in engaging community support for the Clear Creek Trail. Tex has worked with corporate sponsors, local citizens, Navy personnel, students from local schools, and the Boy Scouts of America, to name just a few of the groups that he has connected with. It would be difficult to find a family that lives within Central Kitsap who has not had at least one family member who has worked with Tex on the Clear Creek Trail!

Not only has Tex connected with the community in his work with the Clear Creek Trail, but he has also connected with County staff. One thing that makes Tex the great volunteer that he is, is that he works hard to get things done and at times “pushes the envelope.” In working through these “pushes” and challenges, staff members have developed a great respect for Tex and I believe, visa versa.

I don't believe Tex will ever completely retire from the Clear Creek Trail. When he talks about the trail you can tell that it is engrained in his heart, and rightly so! When Tex does retire to his “rocking chair” we will see him on a bench along the Clear Creek Trail, where he can keep an eye on things.

The Measure of a Man

Written by Coreen Johnson in 2007

Tex Lewis is a remarkable guy. A graduate of Purdue and Stanford Civil Engineering programs, Tex served 30 years in the Navy Civil Engineering Corps, retiring as Captain. Since his “graduation” from the Navy, Tex has been active as a civil engineering consultant and with the youth of this community.

His renown as a results orientated character places him in high demand by many organizations. He gets stuff done.

This reputation led Kitsap County Commissioners to select Tex to chair a citizens’ committee to establish an Urban Growth Area for Silverdale. Tex corralled a group of attorneys, engineers, and private citizens to hammer out a Growth Management Plan. No easy feat. With that under his belt, he drafted guidelines for creating the CK Community Council. He has served on the CKCC for six years, chairing the Parks, Recreation, and Environment Committee.

In the meantime, he contacted State Legislators to remove restrictions on design-build construction of public facilities. He was instrumental in the Citizen’s Walk to School initiative and in assisting with a comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan. Tex served on the Silverdale Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, representing the board regarding traffic improvements, environmental issues, and building community.

Tex serves on the Public Facilities District Recreation Advisory Board, member of the WSU Cooperative Extension Advisory Committee. He’s a certified WSU Master Gardener.

In his role as Co-Chair of the Clear Creek Task Force, he forged an alliance of community service organizations, the Chamber, the Great Peninsula Conservancy, the Suquamish Tribe, church groups and many individual citizens and businesses.

Tex is adamant about including all groups in community efforts. The County’s youths, Scouts of all ages, high school to grade school kids and the Alternative to Detention kids have done much of the trail work. Working together, trails were

built, riparian habitat improved and volunteers volunteered. They became stewards of the land along the way.

Over the years, he has assisted the Kiwanis in their Salmon in the Classroom program by teaching over 1,000 elementary students and adult leaders about riparian functions, storm drainage, and planting trees. He has encouraged countless Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and civic groups. To date, Tex has helped nearly 60 young men select and completed projects along the trail for their Eagle Scout Project. From Scouts to community clubs to local county workers, Tex is the one individual who is sought out as "Someone who gets stuff done!"

Tex is a prolific writer. Some of the stuff important to Tex is community and our stewardship of said community. In writing a piece on the measure of the community, he concluded, "We spend a lot of money trying to attract people here. We encourage them to visit or even start a business and live here. We are competing with every community in the state. Take a new look as you turn off the highway, and drive through town. I think there is a lot we can do to reflect our pride, and make this a better place to live. You may have additional ideas of things that you can do or encourage others to do. After all, we are in charge; and can make this place the way we want it to be."

One point that is very near and dear to his heart is the Thank You letter "...Your generous donation gave us a big boost in cleaning up the site and heading this project to completion. We very much appreciate your donation of the dumpster. The entire project will be completed with donated materials and volunteer labor. Thanks again for being such a supportive member of our community."

..."Your generous donation gave us a big boost. We have a lot of projects underway. I met this evening with two young men who are starting their Eagle Scout projects. Our work on our new Pavilion is well underway, and we will have it open this fall. All these projects will be completed with donated materials and volunteer labor.

..."We are totally dependent on the support we get from the community. You can imagine the tremendous excitement we feel when we get support such as yours. In addition to allowing us to move forward, it validates our efforts and inspires

our volunteers. I can assure you we cherish each donation, and commit to using it wisely.”

An email of determination ...

“Think for next year we will continue to support Anderson Landing efforts including weed clean-up, get student group hot on skate park (no ifs, ands, or buts), expand the Clear Creek trail from bridge to bridge and tie into Bike Trail, and plan and begin development of walking path from Hotel to Waterfront Park. Maybe more stuff as opportunity arises. Tex ”

Tex was awarded the 1995 Paul Linder Award as the Silverdale Chamber’s most outstanding member; the 1997 J.C. Penny Golden Rule Award for community service; the 2000 Silverdale Chamber’s President’s Award for outstanding service to the Chamber; the 2002 Kiwanis Club of Central Kitsap Distinguished Service Award; the 2002 Silverdale Citizen of the Year Award for community service and involvement; and the 2002 American Society of Civil Engineers Zone IV Citizen Engineer Award. Orca District and the Chief Seattle Council were proud to recognize “ Tex ” Lewis with the inaugural Community Leadership Award in 2007.

Tex has been a busy, busy guy in his community these past years and we wish to recognize his diligence, humor, inspiration and sense of community.