

# City of Mercer Island

## Parks and Recreation Commission

### Department Report

March 3, 2023



# Staffing Updates

- Tom Flynn promoted to Parks Maintenance Foreman
- Jordan Fischer has come back as our Volunteer Coordinator
- Alex Lee (MICEC)- New hire as Recreation Facilities Supervisor



Tom



Jordan



Alex

Now Hiring:

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/mercerisland>



# Island Lanterns @ Mercerdale

- Lantern kits were made available to the community beginning in January and City Staff and volunteers installed the community created lanterns at Mercerdale Park on Feb. 25.
  - Due to construction impacts, the display was moved from its planned location.
- The lanterns will be up through the end of April (and depending on weather, wind is not good)
- For those who didn't get their lanterns hung last weekend, you can drop them off at the MICEC and we are happy to hang them for you.
- Thank you to MIVAL, ArtsWA, and the National Endowment for the Arts for supporting this project.
- Visit [www.mercerisland.gov/islandlanterns](http://www.mercerisland.gov/islandlanterns) for details.





# Good News: Luther Burbank Docks Project

- Last week City staff received notification the State's Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) regarding a grant request for the Luther Burbank Dock Reconfiguration Project
- The project ranked #4 in priority out of 14 projects.
- This ranking puts the project in a strong position to receive the \$1 million for new dock construction.
- The comprehensive renovation of the docks is scheduled to start this year and be completed in 2024.
- To date, staff anticipates funding across (3) State grants to total \$3 million for this project. (Pending passage of the state budget)
- The total project cost is estimated at \$7.5 million.

For more information visit:

<https://letstalk.mercergov.org/lbdock>

# Calling All Mercer Island Artists

- The Arts Council is inviting local amateur and professional artists to enter a competition for a design highlighting Island events.
- This design will be premiered at Summer Celebration 2023, as the event shirt(s) and used for various merchandise options throughout the year.
- Designs should reflect the spirit of Mercer Island, love for the community and what Mercer Island means to the artist.
- Originality and creativity are paramount.
- Deadline for submissions is April 15.
- For full details, rules, and guidelines visit [www.mercerisland.gov/summercelebration-artistcall](http://www.mercerisland.gov/summercelebration-artistcall)



# Maintenance and Operations Update: Turf Blanket Pilot

- The City piloted the use of turf blankets on some of the turfgrass in Aubrey Davis Park to see how they improve turfgrass through the winter.
- Good news – we are seeing success!
- Crews saw improved color and growth compared to non-covered areas over the two-month test period.
- We will continue to utilize this tool in the future.



# Leap for Green Fair Returns

- Mark your calendars – Leap for Green Earth Day Fair returns this spring!
- The event is scheduled for **Saturday, April 22 from 10am – 2pm** at the Community Center.
- Activities include entertainment, food trucks, sustainability vendors, and more.
- Visit [www.mercerisland.gov/greenfair](http://www.mercerisland.gov/greenfair) for details.





# SUMMER CELEBRATION

JULY 15, 2023

**Mercerdale Park 10am - 4:30pm**

**Luther Burbank Park 6 - 10:15pm**

**Fireworks at 10pm!**

## Sponsors Needed:

**Presenting:**

\$20,000

**Site:**

\$10,000

**Entertainment:**

\$5,000

**Supporter:**

\$2,500 - \$1,000

To support contact:

[Katie.Herzog@mercergov.org](mailto:Katie.Herzog@mercergov.org)

[WWW.MERCERISLAND.GOV/SUMMERCELEBRATION](http://WWW.MERCERISLAND.GOV/SUMMERCELEBRATION)



# Mercer Island Community and Event Center

## \*Slumber Party\*

- On Tuesday night, the Recreation Division partnered with the MIHS Band to provide sleeping space for approx. 50 students in MICEC meeting Rooms.
- The students were from the Moses Lake High School Wind Ensemble and taking part in the MISD Band Festival, to perform early Wednesday morning.
- The students were outstanding guests, and a huge thank you to the MISD staff and chaperons who spent the night.



**Thank you!**

