

Gallery of Gardens tour founded by highlands gardener

Hopefully you had a chance to attend the first annual Kirkland Gallery of Gardens Tour on July 26. Two fabulous Highlands gardens were featured this year.

One of them belongs to Phyllis Warman, who is also the founder of the tour. Phyllis has lived in the Highlands for 24 years. She and her husband, Leon, have created a lush, certified wildlife sanctuary and botanical garden featuring over 300 species of native and Northwest climate-friendly plants and five unique water features scattered alongside a running creek. The ornamental areas are Northwest Asian in style

while the outlying areas are restored woodlands and wetlands. Phyllis is an award-winning landscaper designer who owns Phyllis Warman Landscape Design (<http://phylliswarman.com/>).



Highlands
Karen Story

Here is what Phyllis said about her garden and the tour: "My garden

was on the Bellevue tour last year and I enjoyed that event a lot. Since I resigned from the Kirkland Design Review Board last year I've been looking for another opportunity to contribute my professional skills to the Kirkland community. Some friends have been after me to help fundraise for the Kirkland Arts Center ... it was the combination of all these factors that inspired the idea for the tour.

"One of my landscape designer colleagues calls my garden my lab. He's so right! I've stuffed it with plants so I can study them first before recommending them to clients. The garden is also a showcase of my work, although I'd never overplant a client's garden like this. Once I've seen a client's garden, I invite them over to walk through and look at mine so they can see - in a garden setting - the plants I typically recommend, the types of stonework I design with, and water

features I can engineer.

"My goal was to make my garden inviting and informal and give the plants center stage. All the seating areas, patios, and vistas are designed for viewing the plants from multiple angles. The goal was to play off the existing terrain - slopes, wetlands, creek, and banks - and enhance the landscape's natural character.

"I couldn't have been more pleased with the results of the tour. It was one of the most rewarding experiences I've enjoyed in a long time. There are plenty of beautiful gardens in Kirkland to keep this event going for years."



PHYLLIS WARMAN

family, the Ross family, Debbie Sinick, Cindy Brody, Karen Brender, Peter Drabble, Sue Keller, Ian Story, and Michael Carrion. The plants would not be making it without you!

Picnic Sep. 13

The Highlands Neighborhood Picnic will be held at Highlands Park on Sunday, Sept. 13 from 12-4 p.m. There will be food and games and all kinds of fun. Watch for more information via e-mail and on our Web site at kirklandhighlands.org. *A longtime Kirkland resident, Karen Story is the Communications Chair of the Highlands Neighborhood. A technical writer by day, she spends her free time working on neighborhood projects, raising two teenage boys, and singing in a bluegrass and swing band called Back Burner. E-mail Karen at karen@tinyisland.com.*

Coyotes in our midst

I am very sad to report that several cats in the Highlands have been killed by coyotes in the past few months. Coyotes have been seen and heard at all times of the day and night. To help make our neighborhood less attractive to coyotes, keep small pets indoors or supervised, do not leave pet food or garbage outside where it's accessible to animals. If there is no food here, the coyotes will eventually stop coming around.

Thirsty plants

Thank you to everyone who has helped water the plants in Cotton Hill Park, on 112th, and on the corner of 116th and NE 87th: Trudy Loder, the Ohman



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