

Citizen's Update



The City of Port Orchard quarterly newsletter

Winter 2007

What's Happening?



Bucksnot Coffee
Best Business Winner

Farmer's Market—29th Year
April 28—October 13, 2007
Port Orchard Waterfront

Boating Season Kick-Off
May 4-5, 2007 The Marina

Seagull Calling Festival
May 5, 2007 Marina Park

Who's Who in City

Mayor & City Council

Mayor Kim Abel
Councilmember Fred Chang
Councilmember John Clauson
Councilmember Rita Dilenno
Councilmember Robert Geiger
Councilmember Carolyn Powers
Councilmember Rob Putaansuu
Councilmember Rick Wyatt

Department Heads

Maher Abed, Public Works Director/
City Engineer
Michelle Merlino, City Clerk/
Assistant to the Mayor
Tarrell Decker,
Municipal Court Judge
Debbie Hunt, Court Administrator
Joanne Long-Woods,
Planning Director/City Planner
Kris Tompkins, City Treasurer
Alan Townsend, Chief of Police

Public Meetings

City Council Meetings:
2nd & 4th Monday each month
7:00 pm

Planning Commission Meetings:
3rd Monday each month
7:00 pm

—Reminder—

Regularly scheduled City Council Meetings are broadcast on BKAT (Bremerton Kitsap Access Television), Channel 3, at :

Tuesday 8:00 pm-11:00 pm
Wednesday 1:00 am-4:00 am
Friday 11:00 am-2:00 pm

Agendas are posted on the BKAT web-site www.bkat.org the Saturday prior to Council.

What's New?

2006 HOLIDAY GOOD NEIGHBOR AWARDS were presented to winners in three categories: Best Residence - Stephen and Corrine Harris at 945 Eaglecrest Place once again out-decorated the competition as did Best Neighborhood 1731-1741 Pottery Avenue. Bucksnot Coffee was a new winner in the Best Business category. Congratulations to each of you for showing such great holiday spirit!

SPRING CLEAN UP WEEK—JUNE 11-15 Spring Clean Up will take place during the week of June 11th on your regular garbage pick-up day. This service is available to City single-family residents only. For more information, please call Public Works at 360-876-4991.

2006 CITY PARKS SURVEY RESULTS Thanks to the many citizens who completed the City Parks Survey. The information we received aids the City in understanding which facilities are most used and helps plan improvements and additional services. Many of you indicated that walking paths should be a priority. We also learned that Nick Repanich Park and the walkway along the waterfront are the most frequently visited park and recreation areas!

GIVENS SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER The City of Port Orchard and Kitsap Co. have agreed to partner to help senior citizens in our community. Kitsap Co. has provided space at Givens Community Center and the City worked with the AmeriCorp Program to provide a volunteer to work with the Friends of Givens Senior Center to help them develop and expand their activities in the South Kitsap area. Last October, **Donna Gates-Smeall** began work as the new AmeriCorp volunteer to seniors. Donna is an East Coast transplant from Alabama with experience in event planning and curriculum development. Donna can be reached Monday through Thursday from 8am-4:30pm at the Givens Senior Center, 1026 Sidney Avenue, Room 110, Port Orchard 360-337-5734. Please stop by or phone her; she would love to share her Senior Program with you!

Who's News?

On January 8, 2007 Mayor Abel administered the Oath of Office to **Robert (Rob) Putaansuu** to fill City Council Position No 3. Mr. Putaansuu has over 20 years experience in banking and management. He was previously on the City of Port Orchard Planning Commission and has served on the Board of Directors for the Chamber of Commerce and the South Kitsap Rotary. Mr. Putaansuu joins the City Council with their own extensive experience: Bob Geiger since 1962, John Clauson since 1983, Carolyn Powers since 1988, Rick Wyatt since 1995, Rita Dilenno since 2004 and Fred Chang since 2006. Welcome to the team, Rob.

Congratulations also goes to **Michelle Merlino** who has been appointed City Clerk/Assistant to the Mayor. Michelle is well known to the citizens of Port Orchard through her many years of excellent service as Deputy City Clerk.

In November, our Police Department welcomed **Charles Schandel**. Chuck joined us from the Devonshire Division of the Los Angeles Police Department.

The City Clerk's Office also welcomed two new employees recently. **Jeri Gilreath** and **Debra Walker** are Administrative Secretaries assisting the public with the duties of the Clerk's office. You can meet them by coming to the City Clerk's Window at City Hall!

www.cityofportorchard.us

Directory

Administration 876-4407
Mayor City Clerk
City Treasurer

Utility Billing & Business
Licensing 876-5139

Building and Engineering
876-4991

Public Works Shop
876-2722

Planning 876-4991
Code Enforcement

Municipal Court 876-1701

What's the Answer?

Q: Is there a street cleaning schedule?

A: The regular street sweeping schedule is Monday & Thursday from 3:00am-8:30am and Tuesday & Friday from 2:00am-10:30am. The sweeping route is from Port Orchard Blvd. and Bay east to Bethel and Tremont with part of Mile Hill. The sweepers on this route concentrate on downtown streets and parking lots.

As time and weather permit, we attempt to sweep all city streets as needed, especially those with high concentrations of sand due to snow and ice. However, keep in mind that we cannot sweep if the temperature is too cold because we use water to clean the surface.

If you feel your street has not been cleaned in a while, or you have an unusual amount of debris on your street, please do not hesitate to contact our Public Works Department at 876-4991 and they will add you to their route.

What Do You Know?

GRAFFITI—WHO'S RESPONSIBLE? Under Municipal Code Section 9.31, Port Orchard requires that graffiti on any public or private building or structure, which is visible to public view, must be removed or painted over by the party responsible for the structure.

The Port Orchard Police Department would like all citizens to call 911 and file a police report when they come upon graffiti. Graffiti is the most common type of property vandalism and reporting it promptly is important for tracking purposes. Your cooperation in removing it is the key to successful graffiti prevention.

Safety Matters

GOOD SIDEWALKS MAKE FOR A GOOD COMMUNITY Port Orchard sidewalks are considered part of the street system, and usually are located within the City right-of-way. This leads to questions about who cares for the sidewalks.

The answer is found in the Municipal Code Section 12.12.030. The code puts the responsibility on property owners to maintain the public sidewalk abutting their property. This includes normal removal of snow, ice, leaves, branches (which constituted a problem this winter!), weeds, litter and other debris.

Sidewalks tie a city together through their use as recreational space, an informal gathering place for neighbors and generally as encouragement for all of us to get out and walk more! As another section of the *Update* notes, our citizens most enjoy using the walking areas that occur throughout Port Orchard.

They are your sidewalks. Be proud of them. Take care of them. Enjoy them.

BY THE NUMBERS Did you know that you are required by law to have your address numbers on your home or business? Municipal Code Section 15.16.090 states that all dwelling units in the residential districts are required to have house numbers at least four inches in height, contrasting color, and readable from the street. Commercial, mixed use, and employment districts are required to have at least six inches in height, contrasting color, and readable from the street (15.16.110).

Imagine your house catching on fire or a family member needing medical assistance in the middle of the night. Precious time is lost if emergency response has to look for house numbers that aren't there. Do your part in helping with public safety. Make sure your house or business numbers are on display and readable from the street!

