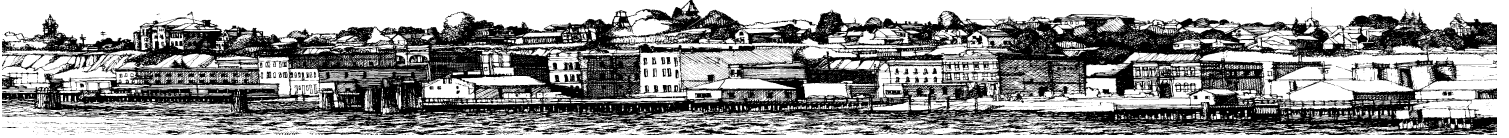


City of Port Townsend



(360) 379-5047 (email: citycouncil@ci.port-townsend.wa.us) www.ci.port-townsend.wa.us February 2006



From Mayor Mark Welch

Since this is my first contribution to the Newsletter, I'd like to take a moment to thank the citizens of

Port Townsend for allowing me the opportunity to serve both on City Council, and as Mayor of this great city. It is truly an honor and a privilege.

In the days and months ahead we will face many challenges as a community. Decisions will be made that will affect us all, now and into the future. The quality of those decisions will be dependent on having the best possible process and the highest quality information available. This Council has made a commitment to that concept, and to serving our community to the best of our ability. But we also need your help.

Democracy can only function where there is citizen participation. This has always been true, but it is especially important when financial resources are at a premium, as they are in most small cities. We are fortunate in our community to have a wealth of experienced and talented individuals, with a wide range of skills and interests and viewpoints.

Currently there are seven citizen advisory boards with vacancies: Civil Service Commission, Arts Commission, Design Review Advisory Board, Transportation Advisory Board, Non-Motorized Transportation Advisory Board, Historic Preservation Committee, and the Tree Committee. If you have expertise and interest in any of these areas, I hope you'll consider applying for one of these positions. If you don't have the time for an ongoing commitment, get involved how you can, stay informed, attend meetings, and let your voice be heard. We're listening.

UTILITY BILLS

If you pay your Utility Bill by an Electronic Fund Transfer through your bank's Bill Payer, please remember to change the City's address to 250 Madison Street.



From City Manager David Timmons

If you have been in to the City Hall Annex, we hope you are as pleased as we are. Inside and out, it is a beautiful building. The comfort and low cost of the radiant heat, the ease with which citizens can access the departments, the outside utility drop box located to the right of the front doors on Madison Street, and the structural integrity it affords Historic City Hall, all maximize the building's intent. And we're not done yet!

The process of building and restoring City Hall has been a multi-phase project. With completion of the Annex, Phase I is done and has given Historic City Hall a seismic anchor. Phase I also included complete restoration of the exterior of Historic City Hall including a new roof. We can now concentrate on Phase II which is a cooperative effort between the City and the Jefferson County Historical Society (JCHS) to restore the interior of Historic City Hall. The Jefferson County Museum will return to its home on the first floor, City Council will again hold meetings in council chambers, and city committee meetings will be scheduled into the meeting rooms on the second floor of the historic building. Our first priority is restoration of the council chambers and public spaces. Completion of the entire project will be late spring/early summer based on the success of the fund raising campaign by JCHS.



A Tribute to Steve Corra From All of Us

It is with great sadness that the City acknowledges the death of long-time employee Steve Corra. Steve started working in the Parks Department on June 19, 1982, and worked for many years as the Park "Fore" (he preferred that to "Foreman" as he wouldn't dare take that title living in a house full of women.)

Steve loved our parks and public spaces. The loving care he and his staff provided shows in many ways, from the breathtaking beauty of Chetzemoka Park to the environmentally sensitive guardianship of natural places such as Kah Tai Park. He carried this sense of stewardship throughout his professional and personal life.



To those who worked with him, Steve will be remembered most for his spirit, sense of humor, and tolerance. He took his work seriously, but was always quick to laugh, and was especially well known for his terrible puns. Steve's presence brought light and energy to any situation and he will be sorely missed.

His family has requested that donations in Steve's memory be made to the City of Port Townsend Memorial Fund. A notation of "Parks" on the donation will designate that the funds be used exclusively for park improvements.

Steve's legacy will remain with our community forever, and even those who did not have the opportunity to know him personally will benefit from his incomparable contribution to the quality of life in Port Townsend.



The Port Townsend Public Library Foundation

The Port Townsend Public Library Foundation was formed in 1994 to strengthen and expand funding sources for the Port Townsend Library.

During 2005 the Foundation board worked with a representative from the Non Profit Center to strengthen organizational structure and recruit new members. The result of this project is an expanded board with a renewed commitment to enhance library services, collections, and facilities. This expanded board met for the first time January 22 to discuss board responsibilities and library plans for the next year.

The Foundation board enthusiastically endorses the organization's mission: "The Port Townsend Public Library Foundation is committed to open and free access to information and ideas; it advances this mission and that of the Port Townsend Public Library by raising and managing financial resources to supplement the library's tax-based support."

Police Canine Kilo by Detective Michael Evans



The Port Townsend Police Department is saddened to report police canine Kilo died on January 19, 2006 from illness. The illness was not related to his duties as a police canine. Kilo, a Yellow Labrador, was eight years old.

Kilo's last handler was Officer Surber, who knew Kilo as a partner, a best friend, and a family member. Dr. Tony and the staff at Chimacum Valley Veterinary Hospital donated their time, resources, and unyielding care in seeing to Kilo's veterinary needs during his tenure with the police department.

Kilo began his career with the Port Townsend Police Department in March of 2001. Kilo's favorite police duty was meeting, greeting, and helping to educate the children of the community. Upon learning of his death one fifth grade student wrote, "It is a tragic day when you lose a loved one and the only thing you can do is say he had a good life and loved you and you loved him and others did too."