

# City of Port Townsend



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## From Mayor Michelle Sandoval Partnering with the Port Townsend School District

This month in the Mayor's column I would like to spotlight one of our successful partnerships in Youth Services. The Port Townsend Public Library and Port Townsend School District have a longtime relationship and, thanks to the passing of the 2008 Library Levy, the Youth Services Department has been able to reinstate its commitment to this important partnership. The following is a sampling of programs **Youth Services Librarians** Jean Tarascio and Jody Glaubman provide for the schools.

Jean visits every classroom (14 of them) at Grant St. School (Pre K-3), along with Grant St. Preschool and Head Start, once a month, offering **curriculum support** in the form of book presentations and discussions. This program reaches over 300 students.

Jody recently booktalked multi-cultural titles for 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders in **Individualized Choice Education (ICE)** at Blue Heron School (4-8) and has been invited to booktalk and tell stories on a regular basis in that program. (A booktalk in the broadest terms is what is spoken with the intent to convince someone to read a book.) She also booktalks new titles in the reading classes and tries to visit each classroom twice a year. This time is also used to recruit new members for **Teen Writers** and the **Teen Advisory Board** (both ongoing programs at the public library.)

The High School book club, **Readers Anonymous**, meets every Thursday during lunch in the school library. There are between 15-20 students in attendance weekly with lively discussions of favorite genres and also shared books. During national poetry month last April these book club students wrote poems on post-cards and randomly placed them in books and other places around town. They also held a

poetry reading with students reading original poems as well as old favorites. Readers Anonymous conducted a book drive, "Feed Your Body, Feed Your Mind," at Blue Heron and the High School in which new and gently used books for all ages were collected and donated to the food bank for distribution during the holiday season.

**Homework Help** is a program that meets every Wednesday afternoon at the Charles Pink House next to the Library. **Tutoring** is available for students in grades 5-12 who need help as well as a quiet space for working individually or in small groups. With help from our local Rotary and Kiwanis two laptops were purchased that students can use for research.

Three years ago the library collaborated with **Mar Vista**, the high school alternative education program, on a year-long project involving graphic novels. This project developed from a state library grant and was so successful that Jody was invited to present the project at the Public Library Association National Conference and the Washington Library Association state conference. This year Jody has booktalked historical fiction novels to 25 Mar Vista students and is currently helping them choose titles.

The Youth Services Department has partnered with Marcus Sather, PT High School guidance counselor, to bring Sheila Bender, author of "Perfect Phrases for College Application Essays", to the public library for a **free workshop**. Sheila will work with Seniors and Juniors on writing their college essays and will also present tips on how parents and kids can work together during this sometimes stressful process.

These are but a sampling of the many programs run by city staff at our beloved library. Come visit the Library in person or on-line at [www.cityofpt.us/Library/](http://www.cityofpt.us/Library/).

To better serve you, the City Finance Department has opened up a new customer service window. Stop by City Hall and check it out!

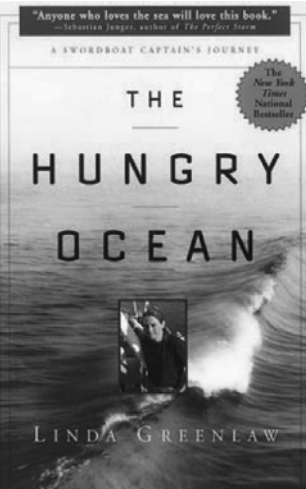
## Your Tax Dollar for 2010

This information is available at the County Assessor's website [www.co.jefferson.wa.us/assessors/Value, Levy and Data for Tax Year 2010](http://www.co.jefferson.wa.us/assessors/Value,LevyandDataforTaxYear2010). Each dollar you pay in property taxes will be distributed in the following manner:

County	.17
City	.24*
EMS	.03
Schools	.24**
Schools	.25***
ConsFut	.01
PUD	.01
Hospital	.03
Port	.02



* Fire District receives half	County	City	EMS	Local Schools	State Schools	Other●
** Local Schools	17¢	24¢	3¢	24¢	25¢	7¢
***State Schools				●Conservation Futures, PUD, Hospital, Port		



PORT TOWNSEND PUBLIC LIBRARY



Copies of The Hungry Ocean will be available at the Library or the William James Book-seller starting February 1. Follow up activities, art shows, discussion groups, raffles, contests and more are scheduled throughout March as well as an opportunity to meet the author

Linda Greenlaw. Look for the activities on the Library's website [www.cityofpt.us/Library/](http://www.cityofpt.us/Library/), the March Utility Newsletter, or on the Community Read posters around town. We invite you to be a part of the

**COMMUNITY READ 2010**

## What has the City done in support of Youth Services?



The City of Port Townsend is proud of their support for youth services. Among the many City facilities available for use by young people are the Library, Skate Park, Mountain View Pool, Golf Course, and our trail network. The City has been steadily completing safe routes to school sidewalk projects. City parks with playground equipment include Pope Marine, Chetzemoka, Mountain View, and Bobby McGarragh Park on Cherry Street. The City has acquired park land for future development near Castle Hill and 35<sup>th</sup> Street. The Girl Scout House is owned by the City and used rent free by the scouts. A bicycle safety program has also been created and funded by the City.

## February Fun at our Friendly Library

- ◆ Feb. 1, 2:30 - Book Lovers Café at the Community Center lounge
- ◆ Feb. 5, 6:30 - Fiber Frenzy at the Library
- ◆ Feb. 12, 6:30 - Independent America: The Two Lane Search for Mom & Pop by film makers Hanson Hosein and Heather Hughes at the Library
- ◆ Feb. 16, 7:00 - What's Wrong With My Plant? (And How Do I Fix It?) A visual guide to easy diagnosis and natural remedies by David Dear-dorff, PhD & Kathryn Wadsworth
- ◆ Feb. 24, 6:30 - Preserving the Harvest by Lorene Edwards Forkner at the County Library

Other City funding in support of youth services includes \$25,000 per year as a capital investment in the Community Center, \$98,000 per year to support the YMCA, and monetary support for the Boiler Room and the former Big Brothers/Big Sisters mentoring program. The City Library has a host of youth services as detailed in another article in this newsletter.

The City has also supported and lobbied on behalf of the Boy Scouts to develop a facility in the City as well as supporting community efforts to develop fields at Blue Heron and the High School.