



Around Town

July 2020

From the Mayor's Desk

As summer starts and the weather improves for the next several months, I ask you to remember the medical guidance in this time of COVID-19.

Common sense is still important: if you are sick stay home; wearing a facial mask benefits both you and others; and routine washing of your hands is important. Let's continue with our diligence to help mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 on Steilacoom and the region.

Steilacoom received recovery funds under the federal C.A.R.E.S. program. Town Council members reviewed the program goals and approved three funding support categories: Utility Assistance for Steilacoom utility customers impacted by COVID-19; Rent Assistance for renters impacted by COVID-19; and Business Assistance for Steilacoom business impacted by COVID-19. Distribution of funds has started to those who have applied and been approved. For more information or to obtain an application, visit the Town's official website at townofsteilacoom.org.

Pierce County cities and towns are in Phase 2 of the Governor's Phased Approach to reopening. As you read this, we likely are

approaching or at Phase 3 which will further reopen business capacity, museums, libraries and travel. Our continued adherence to basic health indicators remains important.

The Town has begun our budget process for the 2021-2022 Biennium. You are encouraged to attend and speak to and/or contact me or councilmembers with ideas and priorities that Council should exam.

I hope you have completed the Census2020 by now. If not, please take the short time needed to complete the census. This is easily done online at 2020census.gov.

It is disappointing that our annual Patriotic Fourth of July and Fireworks show have been cancelled. **I remind you that fireworks are illegal** in Steilacoom and have been for more than a decade. I ask for your support to make the 4th safe for all. In the meantime, I hope to see you at the Farmers' Market and Kiwanis Club/Key Club Sugar Shack down at Sunnyside Beach.

Congratulations to the graduating class of 2020.

STAY SAFE AND WELL,
EVERYONE!!

Ron Lucas, Mayor

Council Action

Minutes to the Town Council meetings once approved are on the Town's website at: townofsteilacoom.org and located under:

Town Offices
Town Council

Message from the Superintendent

As we ended the 2019-20 school year, the question on everyone's mind was, "What will school look like when we return in the fall?"

I wish I could confidently say we will be back to a normal, face-to-face, start next year. I understand schools are crucial for families to experience some normalcy, and for parents to be able to return to work.

However, our plans must align with state health officials' guidelines. I can guarantee our comprehensive plan for the reopening of schools will keep students safely at the center of our decision-making. We plan to have our draft models ready in early summer, with information sent to families throughout the summer, with the understanding that things could evolve and change.

In planning for fall and beyond, we remain grounded in our commitment to provide the best education for every student. We are designing our plan of action around the 3 Cs: Compassion, Communication, and Common Sense. Our plans will prioritize the health and safety of our students and staff, focus on our collective and individual social-emotional wellbeing, and accelerate learning for all students.

I remain resolute in my belief that public schools, while not perfect, are our greatest source of hope for a better future. Schools are the heart of our democracy and the backbone of our communities. Leading this

effort in Steilacoom Historical School District is truly an honor and a moral imperative for me personally. I am confident we will create a great plan to serve our students. Collectively, we will continue to adapt and become an even stronger system.

While the pandemic certainly created a strange and challenging school year, our students continued to rise to the occasion and we were able to celebrate the graduation of 223 seniors, who are on their way to change the world for the better. Those 223 students were offered \$7,425,625 in scholarships and awards and accepted \$4,884,774 of that amount offered. We are so proud of the accomplishments and resiliency of these students!

Dr. Kathi Weight, Superintendent

SCHOOL NEWS

Please visit <https://www.steilacoom.k12.wa.us> for updates, FAQs, and resources related to the SHSD.

BUSINESS, UTILITY, RENTAL ASSISTANCE

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was passed by Congress. The CARES Act provides fast and direct economic assistance for American workers, families, and small businesses, and preserves jobs.

The Town entered into an agreement with the State of Washington to receive up to \$193,500. Funds were allocated based upon population.

Council approved a program that will provide funds in 5 areas:

1. Steilacoom household utility assistance.
2. Steilacoom business assistance.
3. Steilacoom resident rent assistance.
4. We Love Steilacoom food bank assistance.
5. Town of Steilacoom COVID-19 related expenses.

To apply for the business, rental, or utility assistance programs, residents should access the Town official website and download the appropriate application form.

WLSA FOOD BANK

The We Love Steilacoom Association operates the Food Pantry/Bank at Steilacoom Community Church, 1603 Rainier Street, Steilacoom, Washington. Hours of operation are 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM on Saturdays. If you are experiencing temporary or ongoing financial challenges and/or food instability, please avail yourself of this resource.

Steilacoom Troop 45261 is offering a food delivery service from the food bank to individuals deemed high risk in our local area. Deliveries are on Saturday mid-morning/ early afternoons.

Please contact: troop45261@gmail.com with your name, address, and phone number family size and number of individuals in each of the following age categories: 0-2; 3-18; 19-54; 55 and over.

FIREWORKS

Possession and/or use of fireworks is illegal within the Town limits subject to fines up to \$250 and \$500 respectively.



The Steilacoom Farmers' Market launched the 2020 season on June 17th. The Market will continue every Wednesday through August from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm in downtown Steilacoom. Bring your family and friends to meet new and familiar vendors and producers. In the interest of the safety of all, please consider leaving your pets at home.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We're inviting residents, schools, and community groups to participate with us as Market Ambassadors on Wednesday mornings, afternoons, or evenings. Complete the application on our website and contact our Market Coordinator allison.leevers@ci.steilacoom.wa.us for details.

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

The Town of Steilacoom's water utilities' 2019 Consumer Confidence Report is available on the Town's official website at:

www.townofsteilacoom.org/DocumentCenter/View/2202/Consumer-Confidence-Report-2019

SUMMER CAMP

School is out and Summer is here. Time for the best Summer Camp ever while adhering to safety precautions dictated by the pandemic. Camp is available for children who have finished Kindergarten through going into 5th grade. Camp runs from 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM and is held at Cherrydale Primary School or for “Wild Camp”, throughout the area. Camp is \$150 per week and spots are available now. To register, call 253.581.1076 or visit our website for an online payment option.

STEILACOOM LOOKS BEAUTIFUL!!

As more and more time is spent at home or outdoors during this period of quarantine, flowers and beautiful yards continue to brighten our spirits and give us hope. Have you noticed the “bumpouts” on Lafayette Street? The planters near the ferry dock and at Saltar’s Beach? The planted and well-maintained garden near the “Steilacoom—a Town of Firsts” sign as you enter from Lakewood? Or how about the beautiful Nancy Anderson Memorial Garden outside the Community Center?

Members of the Steilacoom Garden Club faithfully tend the “Scarecrow Sue” garden adjacent to the Bair Store and the two large stone planters near the post office and many members can be seen around Town putting their expertise into action.

Steilacoom Historical Museum Association members are

tackling the grounds of the museum property where maintaining the historical orchard and herb gardens takes many hours and dedication.

Let’s not forget the contributions of the Town staff—maintaining the parks and common grounds, keeping them clean and safe for visitors. There are a lot of unsung heroes around Town who deserve our thanks for their efforts – weeding, clearing, planting, and generally improving public spaces. There’s never an end to the good will of our townspeople. Wherever you go you will see someone improving what is there! Steilacoom really IS Beautiful!!

The Garden Club would like to acknowledge all this work and also to thank those in Town who donated plants to our annual Plant Sale—another way to keep Steilacoom beautiful!

BEARS

If you see a bear or bears and it or they are threatening, dial 911 immediately. If you see a bear or bears and it or they are not threatening, then please do call the regional office of the State Department of Fish and Wildlife at 360-249-4628 to report the sighting

ON-LINE UTILITY PAYMENT SYSTEM

Effective May 28, 2020, the Town went live with an on-line utility bill payment option. See the Town’s official website at townofsteilacoom.org for additional details.

CAR WASHING AND WATER QUALITY



When it comes to water quality, keeping your car clean is better than letting the rain rinse heavy metals, oil, and toxic chemicals off your car and, ultimately, into the Puget Sound. This toxic mix of chemicals has a deadly effect on aquatic life.

How you choose to wash your car is also important. When you wash your car in your driveway, the soap and chemicals can go into the storm drain, polluting our streams, rivers, and the Puget Sound. Citizens of the region can help decrease water pollution caused by run off from cars by taking their car to a professional car wash or by washing their car over gravel or lawn.

With over 3 million cars in King, Pierce, Thurston, and Snohomish Counties, it’s widely recognized that cars contribute significant pollution to the Puget Sound. Three million cars contribute an estimated 9,194 gallons of gasoline, diesel, and motor oil, 19,355 pounds of phosphorous and nitrogen, 2,903 pounds of ammonia, and 1,451,613 pounds of solid waste into our waterways annually.

Professional car washes use oil/water separators that remove pollutants, which are ultimately

pumped out and properly disposed of, and their wastewater is discharged into the sanitary sewer. In addition, professional washes use minimal water, compared to home car washing; though washing your car at home over gravel or the lawn allows polluted water to absorb into the ground and keeps it from running into the storm drain. For more information, contact the Puget Sound Car Wash Association, 6351 Seaview Ave. NW, Seattle, WA 98107-2664, phone 206.622.8425 or by email at carwashassoc@qwestoffice.net.

4th of JULY PARK CLOSURES
Salter's Point Park will be closed on the 4th of July and Sunnyside Beach Park will close at 8 PM.

**SHMA GARAGE SALE
 JULY 18**

You just MAY have had time to do some closet and garage cleaning and “de-cluttering” during this time of quarantine and social distancing!! Before you donate these items to agencies, consider contributing to the SHMA garage sale.

The Steilacoom Historical Museum Association (SHMA) is having a garage sale on Saturday, July 18, from 9:00-1:00 in the Town’s multi-purpose area in downtown. SHMA will accept items in good condition, but NO clothing! Donations may be dropped off on June 23, June 25, and/or July 9 between 1:00 and 2:00 at the new SHMA storage barn located at the back

of the museum property on Rainier Street.

To ask donation questions or volunteer to help call Carolyn Guppy at 253-581-2662.

Whether you do or don’t have items to donate, join us for the Garage Sale where many treasures might be found.

OUTDOOR FEEDING

Feeding animals outside may have many potential adverse impacts on yours and your neighbor’s property. Town staff are receiving an increasing number of complaints concerning raccoons, feral cats, crows, mice/rats, etc. These animals can pose health and in some cases safety issues.

If you wish to feed your own pets outside, please ensure the food is located inside an enclosure which is inaccessible to large animals. Please do not leave food out between the hours of 6 PM and 6 AM. Additionally, please do not put food out for animals that are not your own.

- BETTER ROADS,
 CLEANER STREAMS
 Six Steps to Clean Water***
1. Help Keep Pollution Out of Storm Drains. Never dump anything down a storm sewer.
 2. Never Fertilize When it’s About to Rain.
 3. Carefully Dispose of Chemicals and Oil. Don’t top off when you fill up your tank.
 4. Clean Up After Your Pet. Dispose of waste in a trash can.
 5. Practice Good Car Care. Fix leaks promptly and wash your car on the grass or at a car wash.
 6. Properly Dispose of Travel Trailer Waste.

**TOWN OF STEILACOM
 CONTACT INFORMATION**

townofsteilacoom.org

Mayor

Ron Lucas.....253 588-6217
Ron.Lucas@ci.steilacoom.wa.us

Council Members

Fred Crumley.....253 584-4776
fred.crumley@ci.steilacoom.wa.us

Pete Franklin.....253 584-0808
pete.franklin@ci.steilacoom.wa.us

Nancy Henderson....253 584-7284
nancy.henderson@ci.steilacoom.wa.us

Marion Smith.....253 589-8534
marion.smith@ci.steilacoom.wa.us

Roger Neal.....253 691-6120
Roger.neal@ci.steilacoom.wa.us

Town Administrator

Paul Loveless.....253 581-1912
Paul.loveless@ci.steilacoom.wa.us

Public Works-Administration

1030 Roe Street.....253 581-1912
 Utility After Hours 253 620-4123

Public Safety

601 Main Street.....253 581-0110
 Emergency.....911
 Non-Emergency ...253 798-4721
 Animal Control... ..253 830-5010
 Anonymous Tips:
crimetips@ci.steilacoom.wa.us

Community Center

2301 Worthington St. 253 581-1076
 Before and After School Prog.
 Meal Site
 Youth and Adult Classes

Chamber of Commerce:

Steilacoomchamber.com

TOWN MEETINGS

Meetings are held at Town Hall unless otherwise noted.

Town Council:

1st and 3rd Tuesday 6:30 PM

Planning Commission:

2nd Monday at 6:30 PM

Preservation and Review Board:

4th Wednesday at 6:30 PM

Civil Service Commission:

1st Thursday - 2 PM at the Community Center.