

## ***Around Town***

***November 2019***

### ***From the Mayor's Desk***

The Steilacoom Historical Museum Association (SHMA) sponsored 2019 "Apple Squeeze" was a huge success for residents and families. Great weather, many family activities, pressing apples into cider and just everything apple marked the 46<sup>th</sup> year of this Fall celebration. Thank you to SHMA members and volunteers. Thanks to event chair Marianne Bull for the direction and leadership in planning and organizing the day. The terrific High School Kiwanis Key Club was the sponsor of the many excellent children activities on the multi-purpose court. It was the highlight for so many young families. Our JBLM Community Connector, the 42<sup>nd</sup> MP BDE/508<sup>th</sup> MP Battalion, also participated and was very vital in supporting the event with many volunteers who did the "heavy lifting". Well done!

The Steilacoom Boulevard project is in the final stages. As I write this, the sidewalks are complete; the sides of the road have been ground and are ready for the asphalt overlay while final roadway rehabilitation touch-ups continue. Weather is now the critical variable to paving. The temperature has to be 45 degrees and rising with no rain or wet surface before

asphalt can be applied. If we are "weathered out" for paving days ..... paving will be suspended and completed in the spring.

After two public hearings, Council has approved Town property taxes for 2020 with a 1% increase. Likewise, as we end year one of the two-year budget, adjustments to the budget have been approved to account for new/increased funds received or changes to expenses and programs within the budget that were incurred. Steilacoom remains debt free and the Council approved budget for 2019/20 is being implemented.

At the December 4 Council meeting, Council will be taking public comment on 2020 utility rates and considering any increases passed on to Steilacoom from Bonneville Power, Lakewood Water and Pierce County Sewer.

The Planning Commission is reviewing regulations concerning short term rentals, such as Bed and Breakfast Inns, which were written before the rise of Airbnb, VRBO and other internet-based rental applications. The Planning Commission will be taking comments at their meeting on November 18 at 6:30 PM at Town Hall.

Volunteer opportunities exist to fill your day. Give back, meet new people or just provide service to others. Call Paul Loveless, Town Administrator at 253-983-2074, or visit the Community Center and Kristal Gibelyou at 253-581-1076 to discuss possibilities. Thanks.

I want to acknowledge months of work by the parks crew led by Rick Creager for maintaining the condition of the parks and building grounds. The task is huge and never-ending, but this work helps make Steilacoom a unique place to live.

On behalf of Council and myself, we encourage you be become informed on the several State Initiatives, County, Town, and Port elections on the November ballot and then vote!! Remember the Voters Pamphlet provides all the information on how to register to vote, a review on Initiatives and candidate information.

The Pierce County Auditor has placed a secure ballot box at the Steilacoom Library, or you can simply mail your ballot. Either way, PLEASE VOTE!

As Winter approaches, remember to be safe during Halloween activities and drive carefully. Please look for the Around Town next month to find the array of Holiday events planned for you and families in Steilacoom.

***Ron Lucas, Mayor***

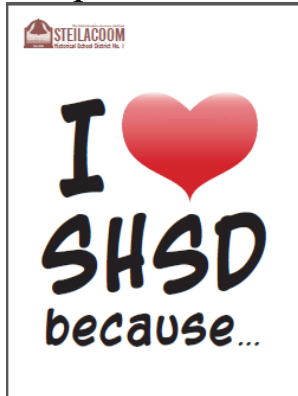
### ***Council Action***

Minutes to the Town Council meetings once approved are on the Town's website at: [townofsteilacoom.org](http://townofsteilacoom.org) and located under:

Town Offices  
Town Council

***Steilacoom – A Historic  
Community – Help Keep It  
Clean – Don't Litter and please  
pick up after yourself or others.***

## Message from the Superintendent



We have started a fun activity on our school district's social media pages. Our team visits the schools throughout the district and snaps photos with students, staff and parents holding an "I love SHSD" sign. Everyone photographed is asked to tell us what they love about their school. There have been some excellent and unexpected thoughts captured explaining the reasons why people love Steilacoom Historical School District! One of my very favorites was from a Cherrydale 1<sup>st</sup> grader who pondered my question for quite a while and then articulately responded, "There is just so much to love about this place; I can't possibly pick just one thing."

You can find these great photos and messages throughout the school year on our Twitter page: @steilyschools1 and our Facebook page: Steilacoom Historical School District No. 1.

This month, our district was awarded a third Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) Partnership Grant! The grant awards us one million dollars to focus on the enhancement of Science, Technology, Engineering and

Mathematics (STEM) programs and curriculum. **Project Inspire, Engage, Empower and Connect** will increase the number of military-connected students enrolled in STEM courses by creating a K-12 STEM pipeline. This five-year project will benefit all learners by extending our STEM science curriculum ([Project Lead the Way](#)) to the elementary schools (K-5<sup>th</sup> grade). Additionally, Pioneer Middle School will receive support through the purchase of materials and supplies for alignment to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) with continued professional learning opportunities for our science teachers. The 2019-2020 school year will be a planning year for the school district.

The DoDEA Grant program has now provided nearly three and a half million dollars to the Steilacoom Historical School District. [The Project Safe and Sound Grant](#), awarded in 2016, has advanced the district's efforts in Social Emotional learning, and [The MASTER Project Grant](#), awarded in 2017, has enhanced the district's Math and Technology opportunities.  
**Kathi Weight, Superintendent**

### **SCOUTING FOR FOOD**

Boy Scout Troop 71 will be in your neighborhood collecting non-perishable food items on Saturday, November 2nd, beginning at 8 am. Please have your donation visible from the street for pickup and delivery to the We Love Steilacoom Food Pantry located at Steilacoom Community Church. Bags will be delivered to your doorstep on October 26th.

### **PET OWNERS**

**PET OWNERS - IF YOU HAVE NOT TRAINED YOUR PET TO PICK UP AFTER THEMSELVES, GUESS WHAT? IT'S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!**

When you are out walking your pet and enjoying the beautiful views, parks, trails, greenbelts, etc, please don't be one of the inconsiderate pet owners who does not pick up after their pet. This failure forces the rest of us who wish to enjoy the same surroundings to tip toe around the mess created by you and your pet. PLEASE pick up after your pet at all times. The Steilacoom Municipal Code defines all the rules and fines for pet violations. No homeowner shall permit his or her dog, cat or other animal to create unsanitary conditions anywhere on common properties. Please be accountable for your pet.

Additionally, please follow through by disposing of the bagged material correctly versus leaving it under a bush, on a wall, on the sidewalk, etc.

### **SPEAKER SERIES**

The Friends of the Steilacoom Library and the Steilacoom Historical Museum are partnering to bring back the historical speaker series. All events are at 3 PM at the Museum.

November 8 – Tames Allen, From the Streets of Shakespeare to the Court of Elizabeth.

December 13: David Buerge, Who Was Chief Seattle?

## ***VOLUNTEERS NEEDED***

The Community Center needs your help. The biggest need right now is for a front desk volunteer for the Thursday afternoon shift, which runs 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Proficiency with electronics is not required but someone willing to learn is preferable as we are now taking payments with a point-of-sale system.

Additionally, we may also need an extra person to help break down tables and chairs on Wednesday afternoons. We have people who are currently taking care of it, but every so often they are unable to come, and the Town could use someone to be "on call," if necessary.

If interested in these or other possible opportunities, please contact Kristal Gibelyou at 253.581.1076 or

[Kristal.gibelyou@ci.steilacoom.wa.us](mailto:Kristal.gibelyou@ci.steilacoom.wa.us)

## ***LEAVES AND FLOODING***

When leaves clog storm drains, neighborhood streets can flood. Help prevent flooding by raking or sweeping leaves out of storm drains near your home and keeping the drains clear.

## ***EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS***

It's that time of year where we thought it might be helpful to review some emergency preparedness safety tips. As with any major emergency, you need to take responsibility for your own safety and be prepared to sustain you and your family for 72 hours. Primary concerns are loss of

heat, power, telephone service, and a shortage of supplies if storm conditions continue for more than a day.

It is suggested that **at a minimum** you should have the following items on hand to sustain you and your family during a winter storm emergency:

- A. Flashlight with extra batteries.
- B. Battery-powered portable radio to receive emergency information.
- C. 3-day supply of non-perishable food and water (1 gallon/person per day).
- D. Extra clothing, blankets, moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation.
- E. Extra prescription medicines, glasses, baby items, and pet food.
- F. First-aid supplies and a fire extinguisher.

Avoid travel if at all possible during a major storm. If you must travel, do so during daylight and watch out for emergency crews working in and along the roadways. If you have an automatic garage door opener, learn how to manually open your garage door before the power goes out.

**Do call** us to let us know your power is out; **please do not** continually call for updates. We understand your frustration; please know that as soon as the problems are fixed and it is safe to do so, the power will be restored.

If you haven't done so, now is the time to put together your emergency supply kit. And remember, due to the danger of falling trees, limbs and

branches, taking your dog for a walk or going for a stroll in a high windstorm can be a deadly decision; please consider the consequences before you venture out in a winter storm.

## ***YARDWASTE DISPOSAL***

Please dispose of yardwaste and other vegetative debris properly either using your yardwaste bin or correctly composting the material. If composting, please keep in mind the location of your bin/compost area and be considerate of your neighbors.

*Please do not dispose of yardwaste on rights-of-way, in parks, in Farrell's Marsh, or on other Town-owned property.*

## ***DINE AND DANCE***

Come support your SHS Music Boosters on November 7th. Learn to swing dance from an experienced instructor, then practice your new skills to music provided by the SHS Jazz Band. Dinner served at 7 PM. Swing Dance Lessons provided by T-Town Swing.  
5:30 - 6:30 Dance Lessons  
6:30 - 8:00 Dance

The cost includes Dinner, Dancing and Music from our SHS Jazz Band.  
\$25.00 per person  
\$40.00 for couple  
\$10.00 for students

For more information and to purchase tickets, by Nov 4th go to the SHS Music Boosters Facebook Page ([facebook.com/SteilacoomHSMusicBoosters](https://www.facebook.com/SteilacoomHSMusicBoosters)).

If you have any questions, please contact [musicboostersshs@gmail.com](mailto:musicboostersshs@gmail.com) or 253-297-3016

## ***PARKING RESTRICTIONS***

The Town Council is considering removing the 2-hour parking restrictions on the westside of Town. Specifically:

- (1) 2nd Street from Martin Street to Champion Street.
- (2) 3rd Street from Martin Street to Gove Street.
- (3) 4th Street from Martin Street to Champion Street.
- (4) 5th Street from Martin Street to Gove Street.
- (5) 6th Street from Martin Street to Jefferson Street.
- (6) 7th Street from Champion Street to Jefferson Street.

### **Champion Street:**

- (1) From 2nd Street to 4th St.
- (2) From 5th Street to Union Avenue.

### **Martin Street:**

From 6th Street to Union Avenue.

### **Montgomery Street:**

- (1) From 3rd Street to 4th Street.
- (2) From 5th Street to Union Ave.

If you would like to comment on this matter either pro or con, please contact the Mayor, any/all of the Councilmembers, or Paul Loveless at [paul.loveless@ci.steilacoom.wa.us](mailto:paul.loveless@ci.steilacoom.wa.us)

## ***SHORT-TERM RENTAL REGULATIONS***

The Town of Steilacoom's regulations on short-term rentals, such as for Bed and Breakfast Inns, were written before the rise of Airbnb, VRBO and other internet-based rental applications. The Planning Commission will begin taking public input on possible new regulations for these types of rentals at their November meeting.

After gathering information from the public, the Commission will make a recommendation to the Town Council on new regulations.

You may provide input in person at the Commission meeting or by submitting comments in writing to Town Planner Doug Fortner at 1030 Roe Street, or by email at [doug.fortner@ci.steilacoom.wa.us](mailto:doug.fortner@ci.steilacoom.wa.us).

The Commission will meet November 18 in Town Hall, 1717 Lafayette Street, at 6:30 PM.

## ***COME & CELEBRATE***

October 27th, 2019 at 10 AM

Come and celebrate the growing excitement in your community as SCC dedicates their extensive sanctuary remodel!

SCC has been here for 136 years!

Special music will feature:

- The Steilacoom Community Church Chancel Choir
- Steilacoom Praise Band
- Erik Stevens and brass Sextet
- The Sonoro Women's Choir
- Elysium

Special fellowship time with refreshments and a walkthrough of the history of this historic church!

## ***ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION***

The Town recently installed an electric vehicle charging station in the parking lot at the corner of Wilkes and Lafayette Street. The station is open to all for use.

## **TOWN OF STEILACOM CONTACT INFORMATION**

[townofsteilacoom.org](http://townofsteilacoom.org)

### **Mayor**

Ron Lucas.....253 588-6217  
[Ron.Lucas@ci.steilacoom.wa.us](mailto:Ron.Lucas@ci.steilacoom.wa.us)

### **Council Members**

Fred Crumley.....253 584-4776  
[fred.crumley@ci.steilacoom.wa.us](mailto:fred.crumley@ci.steilacoom.wa.us)

Pete Franklin.....253 584-0808  
[pete.franklin@ci.steilacoom.wa.us](mailto:pete.franklin@ci.steilacoom.wa.us)

Nancy Henderson....253 584-7284  
[nancy.henderson@ci.steilacoom.wa.us](mailto:nancy.henderson@ci.steilacoom.wa.us)

Marion Smith.....253 589-8534  
[marion.smith@ci.steilacoom.wa.us](mailto:marion.smith@ci.steilacoom.wa.us)

Roger Neal.....253 691-6120  
[Roger.neal@ci.steilacoom.wa.us](mailto:Roger.neal@ci.steilacoom.wa.us)

### **Town Administrator**

Paul Loveless.....253 581-1912  
[Paul.loveless@ci.steilacoom.wa.us](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://Steilacoomchamber.com)

## **TOWN MEETINGS**

Meetings are held at Town Hall unless otherwise noted.

Town Council:

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 6:30 PM

Planning Commission:

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 6:30 PM

Preservation and Review Board:

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 6:30 PM

Civil Service Commission:

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday - 2 PM at the

Community Center.