

# Woodway Whisper

## Fall Newsletter



### Mayor's Message

#### O U R F U T U R E a s a C O M M U N I T Y

As the old adage goes: "it all comes down to money" and that applies to Woodway's future. Our 2009 budget is balanced but starting in 2010 we will be faced with many decisions. Woodway currently provides a very basic level of services, but our annual revenues do not cover our annual expenditures.

- Should we use a portion of Town reserves (\$1.5 Million) to support our current level of services?

Many communities are faced with this option in order to continue to provide municipal services. Our neighboring community of Edmonds is currently debating the impact of its financial deficits. Our community does not have the same level of concerns because Woodway's former Councils and mayors have worked hard to preserve our resources for emergencies.

- Do we ask residents to consider a property tax increase up to \$60 per month so that our reserves are retained for the future?

Woodway has a 50 year history of independence and in my opinion, our healthy reserves are at the core of our

independence. Preserving our community and these reserves has always been my priority.

- Can we maintain affordable fire/EMS services?

The decision by Edmonds and neighboring jurisdictions on whether to form a regional fire authority has an impact on Woodway's operating budget because our contract with Edmonds for fire/EMS services accounts for approximately 30% of our budget. There is a possibility that the rate at which we are able to contract for these services could increase dramatically.

In the next few months the Council, Planning Commission, and I will meet in small neighborhood groups to discuss these options. I invite you to join your neighbors and myself as we work on our community's future. The schedule for the neighborhood meetings is on page 2. Please join me.

## Meet Your New Council Member

### Elizabeth Mitchell

I was born and raised in Seattle and attended Harvard University, graduating with a degree in English Literature. I came back to Puget Sound, working for my family's transportation company, as well as arts organizations and political campaigns. Returning to school I earned a degree in painting from the University of Washington and began to paint full-time. I was fortunate enough to be able to show my work in Seattle.



In 1996, my partner Scott, his daughter Chloe, and I moved to Woodway, excited to find a community on the Sound that values our native forest environment. We found a place where we could realize our dream of keeping horses at home while living close to the advantages of our region's largest city.

The Town of Woodway is truly exceptional in these characteristics. As a Council Member I hope to help preserve the unique character of our Town for the benefit of all residents.

## Schedule for Neighborhood Meetings

Earlier this fall, you received a letter from Mayor Nichols, as well as two fact sheets detailing important issues facing Woodway: Town finances and the future of the Pt. Wells land. In the next few months we want to engage as many residents as possible to share ideas and discuss these issues on an informal basis. Below you'll see a schedule for our neighborhood meetings. If at all possible, try to attend the meeting nearest your home but if your schedule conflicts, please consider attending one of the others that have been scheduled.

As you can see from the following list, we still need some folks to volunteer their home for these meetings. If you are interested and can help, please call Town Hall. We will be sending reminder post cards to each neighborhood once this schedule and home sites are finalized. Please RSVP to Town Hall three days before the meeting you are able to attend. For now, the proposed schedule is as follows:

Woodway Park Estates neighborhood	Monday, January 12 at 7 pm	Dr. Wally and Bernice Kegel 22201 Makah Road
114 <sup>th</sup> , 115 <sup>th</sup> , 116 <sup>th</sup> , 239th Place S.W., Berry Lane, Eagle Lane, Heberlein Road, Quail Lane, Richmond Beach Drive N.W., & Totem Pole Lane	Saturday, January 24 at 10 am	Malcolm & Diane McCallum 11520 Quail Lane
Woodway Park Road north of bridge, 106th Avenue W., 226th Street S.W., Algonquin Road, & Kulshan Road	Saturday, January 31 at 10 am	John Pierce 22115 Woodway Park Road
N. Deer Drive, Dogwood Lane, N. & S. Dogwood Lane, & Dogwood Place	Monday, February 9 at 7 pm	Dean & Carla Nichols 22440 Dogwood Lane
Twin Maples neighborhood, Timberlane Road, 113 <sup>th</sup> Place W., & Ivy Lane	Monday, February 23 at 7 pm	*Need a volunteer home site*
Woodway Park Road south of bridge, 112th Place W., 238th Street S.W., S. Deer Drive, Wachusett Road, & Woodhaven Place	Saturday, March 14 at 10 am	Scott Neely & Elizabeth Mitchell 23611 Woodway Park Road
Woodway Highlands	Monday, March 23 at 7 pm	*Need a volunteer home site*

### Council Reception on December 1<sup>st</sup>

The Town Council and Planning Commission members will be hosting a holiday reception at Rosary Heights on Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup> to honor Dr. George Stead, who recently retired from the Town's Planning Commission.

Please join us at 7:30 p.m. on for holiday desserts, a short program honoring Dr. Stead and a chance to begin the holiday season with your Woodway neighbors. To make sure that we will have adequate holiday "goodies" please RSVP to Town Hall by Wednesday, November 26, 2008.

### Stormwater Utility Bills

Thank you Woodway residents for your timely payment of your utility bills. We appreciate your cooperation. Your next stormwater bill, for the last six months of 2008, will be mailed out in January. Please give this bill your attention so our clerks do not have to issue late payment fees.



Heather Frank, Chairwoman of the Woodway Town Fair with her son, Miles, and friends Thomas Blahous and Maxwell Karr. Thanks, Heather, for another fantastic fair!

### Public Works News

I was recently contacted by Public Works Director Terry Bryant to examine a couple mysteries in the Woodway Reserve. The explanation for them is too good to not pass along, so here goes.

The first is the concern about the Western red cedars that have several small branches turning rusty brown. Is the tree dying or stressed? No, actually this is the cedar's fall color. The phenomenon is called 'flagging' and is a normal process of shedding foliage as it goes into dormancy for the winter.

The other conundrum was in regards to some big-leaf maples along the north edge of the Woodway Reserve. A few branches were dying and breaking off. There was no pattern to the dieback which ruled out insect or chemical damage or even a root or disease problem. If you looked closer to the point of dieback you would see some mechanical damage. I concluded that the furry critters in the forest were the culprits, most likely the Douglas squirrel (only native squirrel). They often collect twigs and bark for their nests and food stash over the winter.

-Elizabeth Walker, Town Arborist

### Town Council Corner

**General Government:** Confirmed John Galt as new Hearing Examiner. Amended the fee schedule. Adopted the franchise agreement with Verizon Northwest, Inc. Amended the business license regulations. Amended and updated the Personnel Policies and Procedures. Approved a resolution opposing commercial air passenger at Paine Field. Approved monetary support of Strategies 360 which surveyed the community about Paine Field. Appointed Elizabeth Mitchell as new Town Councilmember. Approved the Interlocal Agreement Consortium for Negotiation of Cable Television Franchising with Comcast Cable.

**Public Works & Lands:** Removed the bond prerequisite for Right-of-Way projects and increased permit fees. Created a road cut permit and pavement mitigation fees. Awarded bid for the Makah and Chinook stormwater projects.

**Land Use & Planning:** Adopted the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan. Confirmed appointment of Heather Frank as new Planning Commissioner.

**Building & Municipal Services:** Extended the time period for title reports. Amend Title 12 of the Woodway Municipal Code related to water heater permits,

### Planning Commission Update

The Planning Commission has been working on updating the Sensitive Area Ordinance (Title 16.10 of the Woodway Municipal Code) which will incorporate new regulations that require that the Sensitive Area Ordinance be based on Best Available Science.

We bid a fond farewell to George Stead, chairman of the Planning Commission. After many years of dedicated service, he is retiring. We also welcome new Planning Commissioner Heather Frank, and look forward to working with her in the years to come.

### Town Fair 2008



Adam Quinn, local magician, entertains Woodway children

Two wonderful student volunteers selling mugs and raffle tickets



Preparing for the bike parade

A beautiful day for a pony ride



Volunteer John Bush shares his birdhouse kits

The Uptown Lowdown Jazz Band





## T o w n o f W o o d w a y

23920 113th Place West

Woodway, WA 98020

### T o w n I n f o r m a t i o n

#### T o w n H a l l D i r e c t o r y :

Class	Code City
County	Snohomish
Population	1180
Business Hours	9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Town Hall Phone	206.542.4443
Town Hall Fax	206.546.9453
Town Hall Email	<a href="mailto:townhall@townofwoodway.com">townhall@townofwoodway.com</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.townofwoodway.com">www.townofwoodway.com</a>
Public Works Dept Phone	206.542.0183
Public Works Dept Email	<a href="mailto:publicworks@townofwoodway.com">publicworks@townofwoodway.com</a>
Police Dept Email	<a href="mailto:police@townofwoodway.com">police@townofwoodway.com</a>
Permit Email	<a href="mailto:permits@townofwoodway.com">permits@townofwoodway.com</a>
Mayor	Carla A. Nichols
Council Meets	1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:00 p.m.
Planning Commission Chair	Tom Whitson
Planning Commission meets	First Wed. of the month, 7:00 p.m.

#### T o w n H a l l S t a f f :

Town Administrator	Eric A. Faison
Clerk Treasurer	Joyce Bielefeld
Deputy Clerk/Permit Technician	Heidi K. S. Napolitano
Public Works Director	Terrance R. Bryant, Jr.
Public Works Crew	Bryan Thomas, Mike Sears
Town Attorney	Wayne Tanaka
Plan Checker/Bldg Official	Tom Phillips
Building Inspector	Scott Dorrance
Police Chief	Doug Hansen
Fire Marshall	John Westfall
Town Planner	Bill Trimm
Town Arborist	Elizabeth Walker
FIRE DEPARTMENT	Edmonds 425.775.4545
POLICE-Town Hall (non-emergency)	206.542.4443
<b>EMERGENCY</b>	<b>911</b>

#### T o w n C o u n c i l M e m b e r s :

Bill Anderson, Elizabeth Mitchell, Mike Quinn, Kent Saltonstall, Robert Schillberg

#### L o c a t i o n s o f t h e T o w n B u l l e t i n B o a r d s :

Town Hall Front Porch	Timberlane at 239 <sup>th</sup>
Woodway Park Road at Algonquin	114 <sup>th</sup> West at 239 <sup>th</sup>
Chinook Road at 217 <sup>th</sup>	Willowick Road, north side
Bella Coola west of Makah	