



# Port of Skagit

Summer 2010

## Meeting Calendar

9 am July Regular Meeting	6
9 am July Work Session	20

### SWINOMISH CHANNEL SILTING RAISES CONCERNS

Officials of the Port of Skagit traveled to Washington, D.C. recently to urge federal officials to maintain funding for regular dredging of the Swinomish Channel.

Two new studies commissioned by the Port revealed that sedimentation would block the Swinomish Channel to through boat traffic within five years, placing 521 jobs in jeopardy, if the current dredging schedule were allowed to lapse.

Port Commissioner Jerry Kaufman and Port Executive Director Patsy Martin met with U.S. Rep. Rick Larson, D-WA, and other federal officials to present the findings of the studies.



Commissioner Jerry Kaufman and Congressman Rick Larsen in Washington D.C.

# At Work for You

*Mission ~ Jobs for Our Community*

## VIVA FARMS CREATES AG INCUBATOR ON PORT PROPERTY

The Port of Skagit has leased 33 acres of agricultural land to an organization devoted to helping people get started in the farming business.

The Viva Farms Incubator is a non-profit project that encourages farm entry and long-term viability by providing new and minority farmers with affordable access to sustainable small farm and ranch land. The program also provides training and technical assistance; shared infrastructure and equipment; marketing; and capital and credit.

Don McMoran, a faculty member at Washington State University's Skagit County Extension and a spokesperson for the incubator, told the Port of Skagit Board of Commissioners May 18 that the Viva Farms slogan is, "Creating new farmers one bite at a time."

Viva Farms began preparing its Port of Skagit property at the south end of Higgins Airport Way for farming to start this summer.



Washington State University President Ellison Floyd, right, visited the Viva Farms incubator project at the Port of Skagit on March 31, 2010. Explaining the project to him were, from left, Scott Peterson, Port of Skagit; Howard Grimes, WSU vice president for research; Don McMoran and Sarita Schaffer, WSU Skagit County Extension.

## Port of Skagit Participates in Letterbox Trail

*Great activity for kids and families!!*

Port of Skagit is joining area environmental organizations and groups to hide "letter boxes" up and down the Skagit Watershed this summer. The Port's letterbox will be hidden along the Port of Skagit Nature Trails by Saturday, June 19, 2010.

Participants follow clues to discover hidden letterboxes, which include a journal (for stamping) and a stamp or stickers for participants to place in their own journal.

Stop by the Port of Skagit or any public library for a list of Letterbox Trail clues and detailed instructions. Information is also available on-line at [www.skagitwater.org](http://www.skagitwater.org) or follow the fun as a Facebook friend.

*Explore the natural wonders of Skagit County while learning about our watershed!*

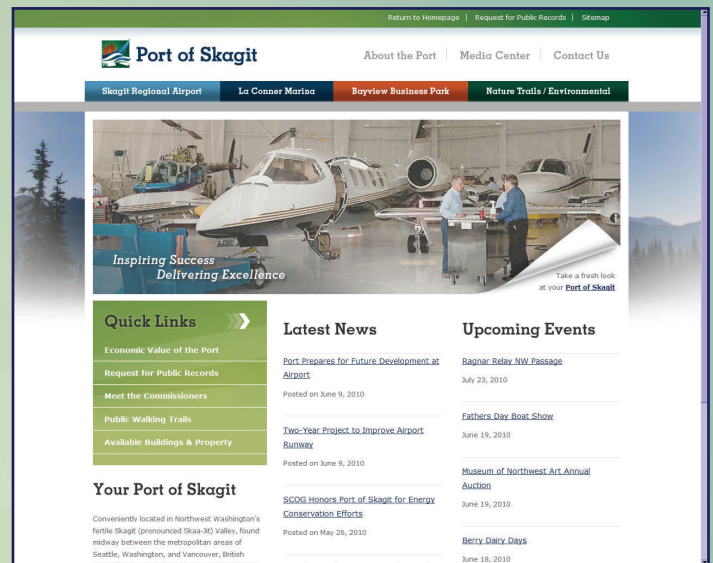


## PORT LAUNCHES EXPANDED WEB SITE WITH NEW LOOK

The Port of Skagit has launched a redesigned and greatly expanded web site at [www.portofskagit.com](http://www.portofskagit.com). The new web site was designed by Schell Design Group of Mount Vernon. Color coding and an easy-to-navigate structure allow visitors to quickly find information about the port's three primary enterprises, Skagit Regional Airport, La Conner Marina and Bayview Business Park.

In addition to providing information, the new web site has interactive features that allow visitors to send emails, reserve guest moorage at the marina, apply for the small works roster and more, directly from the site.

"This was a group effort by the port's managers and staff to deliver a state-of-the-art site that will be useful to our constituents, tenants and customers," said Carl Molesworth, communications manager. "We tried to think of everything a person might want to know about the port, and placed it on the site. Schell Design did a wonderful job of putting all this material together."



## TWO PROJECTS SLATED AT SKAGIT REGIONAL AIRPORT

Skagit Regional Airport will be the site of two important improvement projects this summer. Bids were opened for both projects on May 21.

Advanced Construction Inc., of Mukilteo, WA, won the contract for renovations to an existing building that will become the new FedEx Sort Facility. The winning bid was \$434,964 including sales tax, and a bid of \$27,050 including sales tax for the bid alternate. Nine companies submitted bids for the project.

The first phase of reconstruction of the airport's main runway should begin later this summer, subject to the receipt of Federal Aviation Administration funding. The contractor is Interwest Construction Inc., of Burlington, WA, which submitted the winning bid plus sales tax of \$2,533,826.30. That includes both the base bid and the additive alternate for fencing. The FAA grant will cover 95 percent of the project cost.



The Port of Skagit has hired Carl Molesworth to fill the newly created position of communications and marketing manager.

Molesworth, a longtime Skagit County resident, is responsible for developing and disseminating the Port's communications to the community and to potential customers of port properties, facilities and services. He had been providing these services to the Port on a contract basis since the first of the year.

Molesworth's communications career began in newspapers – he was the editor of the Skagit Valley Herald, 1983-1991 – before moving into the field of trade magazines. He also has written 10 non-fiction books about World War II aviation. In addition, Molesworth has been active in the community over the years, serving on the boards of the Mount Vernon Rotary Club, the Padilla Bay Foundation and the Skagit Hospice Foundation.

"I'm very excited to be able to work with the commissioners and the staff at the Port of Skagit as we pursue our mission of creating sustainable family wage jobs in Skagit County," Molesworth said. "This is a great organization performing an important task, and I'm pleased to be a part of it."

Molesworth and his wife, Kris, live in Bay View. Their daughter, Claire, lives in Seattle.

### Commissioners:

Kevin E. Ware	District 1
Jerry Kaufman	District 2
Bill Shuler	District 3

### Port of Skagit

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