

## WEYERHAEUSER BUILDING REOPENS

100-year-old Everett Waterfront Icon Now Restaurant, Museum & Events Venue P.8

## JIM WEBER SETS SAIL AFTER 47 YEARS

Port of Everett's Marina Operations Director Retires After Nearly Five Decades Helping Shape the Marina P.15

## PORT OF EVERETT COMMISSION CELEBRATES ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Port Commissioners and Port CEO Lisa Lefeber join private partner The Schuster Group, City of Everett and Snohomish County officials, Sound 2 Summit Brewing and Woods Coffee to celebrate the grand openings at Port Gardner Landing in June (see page 6).



Port Commissioners and Port CEO Lisa Lefeber break ground in August on the Millwright District, kicking off the second phase of Waterfront Place (see page 7)

Commission President Glen Bachman, Port CEO Lisa Lefeber, Everett Mayor Cassie Franklin, Jack Ng and Jin Ma of the NGMA Group, Historic Everett representatives and others cut the ribbon to celebrate the grand opening of The Muse Whiskey & Coffee in July (see page 8).

## **YOUR PORT COMMISSION**



David Simpson District 1 Secretary



**Tom Stiger** District 2 Vice President



Glen Bachman District 3 President

## **REMEMBERING OCEANGATE'S TITAN CREW**

The Port of Everett continues to send its condolences to the families, friends and co-workers of those whose lives were lost in June during OceanGate's trip to the wreckage of the *Titanic*.

OceanGate's *Titan* submersible was reported missing on June 18 after losing communication an hour and 45 minutes into its dive 13,000 feet down into the Atlantic Ocean. Sadly, a fourday international search-and-rescue mission found a debris field indicating the five on board had been lost.

As the largest boatyard tenant at the Port of Everett's Waterfront Center, many on the Port team and those in the boating and business community here know the OceanGate crew. Since becoming a tenant in 2014, OceanGate has been a great community partner. Their team has supported our maritime education and outreach initiatives, from giving educational tours to participating in Port events like Holiday on the Bay.

OceanGate's location at the Port of Everett will remain closed while their staff copes with the tragic loss of their team member.

They have appointed a new CEO who will lead OceanGate through ongoing investigations and closure of the company's operations.

The OceanGate team remains in our thoughts during this difficult time.

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## **COMMISSION MEETINGS**

Port Commission meetings are held in hybrid format with an in-person or virtual option via the Zoom video conferencing platform. Meetings take place the first and second Tuesday of each month at noon at the Port of Everett's Waterfront Center, 1205 Craftsman Way, in the Blue Heron Room. The public is encouraged to participate.

### PORT SIDE TEAM

This issue of the Port Side was written and produced by the Port's Public Affairs Department and printed by DCG ONE.

*Cover image*: A sunset shot of the restored historic Weyerhaeuser Building that reopened in its centennial year as The Muse Whiskey & Coffee.

## PORT OF EVERETT

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# **EXPLORING PORT BOUNDARIES**

As an economic development enterprise, the Port of Everett is always looking at ways to leverage the tools and resources unique to port districts to bring economic opportunity and added value to the communities it serves.

During the Port's Strategic Plan outreach in 2018/2019, the Port sought public feedback to help set a roadmap for the next decade of Port initiatives. During public engagement, the Port heard interest in expanding Port boundaries linked to a desire to see the Port's strategic investments and infrastructure improvements stretch into other parts of Snohomish County.

While many of the 75 public port districts throughout Washington state are county-wide, the Port of Everett is not. Currently, the Port's boundaries encompass most of Everett, portions of Mukilteo, and small parts of Marysville and unincorporated Snohomish County with about 110,000 residents. To put this into perspective, with nearly 830,000 residents and counting, only about 15% of the County has port representation.

The boundaries as they are drawn today limit how the Port can partner with neighboring cities to advance their specific economic and community priorities — whether that be transportation improvements and close-tohome job opportunities or quality-of-life enhancements by way of community revitalization, mixed-use and recreational amenities, environmental initiatives and more.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Given these limitations and the initial community interest, the Port Commission tasked staff with taking a more formal look at the topic of boundary expansion, including an economic value study and legal assessment of what it would take to expand and most importantly — a community assessment to see if, and where, Port partnership is desired. A community survey will Edmond launch this fall to solicit community feedback.

Port staff expects to bring a recommendation on next steps to the Commission by the end of the year.

Above: A map showing Snohomish County's two ports and their respective boundaries.

Mill Creek

PORT OF EDMONDS

Hat Island

Mukilteo

Lynnwod

Mountlake Terrace

PORT OF EVERETT

Learn more & watch for the community survey at portofeverett.com/boundaries.



## PORT INKS DEAL WITH MARITIME INSTITUTE TO BRING MARINER TRAINING COURSES TO WASHINGTON STATE

Maritime Institute has signed a new 10-year lease to locate its newest mariner training facility at the Port of Everett's Waterfront Place. The new satellite at the Port of Everett will be the company's first in Washington state. The Port Commission approved the lease on July 11.

The Everett site will fill a growing need, providing closer training opportunities for existing and aspiring mariners located here in Washington state and throughout the Pacific Northwest. Both classroom and on-the-water instruction will take place in Everett and will result in recognized certifications for the maritime industry. Courses are anticipated to begin in January 2024.

The Maritime Institute trains more than 10,000 mariners across its sites annually. They offer 150+ courses, authorized by the U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Navy, including all aspects of vessel operations such as deck, engineering, life-safety and even small arms.

Working with local workforce agencies and maritime employers, courses offered at the Port of Everett will be intended to serve the interests and growing maritime needs in Snohomish County and the greater Puget Sound region, including applicable mariner training for Washington State Ferries and commercial shipyards.

Chain

One of the key programs to be expanded in Everett is Maritime Bootcamp — a program that in just four weeks provides the training necessary to put participants with little to no experience on a career pathway in maritime.

"With Washington state being the most trade-dependent state in the nation, and with more than 60% of jobs in Snohomish County alone tied to trade, it is crucial we have accessible pathways to maritime education," Port of Everett CEO Lisa Lefeber said. "As a port, our mission is growing and promoting access to family-wage jobs. Recruiting a maritime training center to serve Snohomish County and the greater region has been a top priority for us, not only to fulfill this mission, but to also ensure a skilled and diverse maritime workforce in the future."

## A VISION FOR MUKILTEO'S SHORE THE PORT OF EVERETT HAS UNVEILED PRELIMINARY ARTIST RENDERINGS THAT SHOW WHAT REDEVELOPMENT OF THE MUKILTEO WATERFRONT COULD LOOK LIKE

This spring, at the request of the Mukilteo City Council, the Port of Everett expedited delivery of some early concept artist renderings to provide a preliminary idea of what future redevelopment of the Mukilteo waterfront could look like.

The renderings reflect the unified vision and guiding principles adopted late last year by the Port Commission and City Council following extensive waterfront stakeholder engagement, council feedback and community input on the topic.

The call was clear. The Mukilteo community wants a vibrant waterfront with access to the water, walking trails, dining, culture, and a place to enjoy magnificent views of the sea, islands and mountains.

The Port and City are now working to determine how a formal partnership will be structured to move development forward. Both parties established negotiating committees and started convening this summer. The hope is to reach agreement by the end of the year.

"I believe we are stronger when we work together, and we both have special resources and skills to bring to the table to get this development on the right path."

#### **Tom Stiger**

Port of Everett Commission Vice President

#### INITIAL FOCAL POINTS ON THE WATERFRONT'S DEVELOPMENT:

- Lighthouse Park's usefulness and beauty can be enhanced by expanding the grass and park space near the lighthouse to provide more space for walking, picnics, sports and playing (Mukilteo Waterfront Master Plan).
- Due to the need to address parking on the waterfront, especially with the development of Lighthouse Park, adding an aesthetically pleasing two- or three-story parking building behind Diamond Knot.
- Possibly changing the configuration and location of the boat launch to offset the reduction in surface parking.
- A mile-long waterfront promenade from Lighthouse Park to Edgewater Park at the far east end of the Mukilteo waterfront will allow access to the beach, parks, play areas, shops and restaurants.
- Building out the area between the Silver Cloud and the ferry terminal with a promenade, retail and/or dining, and residential units on a second floor. This will provide



access to the areas for beachcombing, scuba diving, public restrooms along with restaurants and potentially other retail services. This area could include public gathering spaces with family-friendly features, perhaps a splash park, cultural exhibits or art.

- Near Edgewater Beach there is waterfront property owned by the Tulalip Tribes and the City of Mukilteo. The City has long planned to restore the creek and estuary to a more natural state and create an explorable estuary similar to Meadowdale Beach Park. The Tulalip Tribes are exploring options for clearing and cleaning up the site. Future uses will be dependent on the Tulalip Tribes.
- There's potential for commercial and some limited residential space in the area behind lvar's. This could help to tie in various elements of the waterfront and enable it to become more of a year-round destination with community activities. The residential spaces will help to keep the area safe, especially in the evenings.
- Rebuilding the 525 bridge over the train tracks (funded by the state), if done correctly, could facilitate connection of the water side of the railroad tracks with restaurants, businesses and the Rosehill Community Center on the uphill side of the tracks.

#### **OPEN HOUSE COMING SOON!**

The Port of Everett and City of Mukilteo will be hosting a Mukilteo Waterfront Redevelopment Community Open House later this year. This will be an opportunity to learn more about the future waterfront redevelopment and check out the preliminary artist renderings. Watch the Port's website and social media for the invite.

Learn more @ portofeverett.com/mukilteo.

## PORT AWARDS \$7.8M RECONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR MARINA FUEL DOCK



The Port of Everett Commission has awarded a \$7.8 million contract to American Construction Co. to relocate and reconstruct the Marina Fuel Dock. The work, to kick off next summer, represents the second phase of a two-part project to upgrade the aging fuel dock facility that not only supports Everett's thriving boating community, but also fuels national defense.

In addition to our U.S. Navy partners next door who rely on the Port's facilities to refuel smaller naval assets, the fuel dock also fuels recreational and commercial boating. The U.S. Coast Guard, City of Everett Police and Fire Departments, Snohomish County Sheriff's and tribal partners will also benefit from an upgraded fuel dock as they, too, refuel their vessels at the Marina to support critical emergency response in the area.

This next phase of the project includes dock relocation and reconfiguration to enhance the layout for vessels fueling up. In its current location at Central A-Dock, strong currents create challenges when refueling at low tide. Dock fabrication will begin later this summer with on-site work anticipated to begin in summer 2024.

Work includes the demolition of Central A- and B-Docks, construction of a new 500-foot dock east of the current location, and installation of two additional ondock fuel dispensers. The fuel dock will also have commercial and recreational pump-outs which is key to keeping our waters clean. The existing fuel dock will remain open for the duration of the project. It will be demolished and removed once the new facility is operational.

The Marina Fuel Dock project was awarded a \$5.3 million Department of Defense's Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation grant. This funding will offset the project's \$9.8 million price tag.

### **NEW MARINE SERVICE PROVIDER OFFICES AT WATERFRONT PLACE**



Three marine service providers have new Everett-based locations at Waterfront Place. Freedom Boat Club, Waterline Boats and Bellingham Yacht Sales are now neighbors in a new 1,200-square-foot-building situated west of Hotel Indigo. A Freedom Boat Club membership offers an alternative to boat ownership through its vessel sharing program and offers one-on-one training with a licensed

captain. They cover all the maintenance, cleaning, repair, insurance and storage of club vessels, while customers cover the water. Waterline Boats is a dealer for Krogren Express Yachts and Helman Trawlers — and is the exclusive Washington licensee for Boatshed. Bellingham Yacht Sales, to open here later this year, carries a selection of new and used Sabre, Black Cove and Cutwater yachts.

### RESEARCHERS STUDYING AREA'S GRAY WHALES

The Cascadia Research Collective (CRC) was stationed out of the Port of Everett Marina this spring to study gray whales that migrate to north Puget Sound. The research focuses on the whales known as "Sounders" that have adapted to feed on ghost shrimp at high tide. The CRC team took intertidal samples and deployed video tags to examine the whales' feeding behavior and document feeding locations.

### CRAB POTS REMOVED FROM PORT GARDNER BAY

The Northwest Straits Foundation removed 242 derelict crab pots from the tidal flats area in Port Gardner Bay. The foundation hired Seattle-based Natural Resources Consultants to locate and remove crab pots that have been lost, abandoned or otherwise discarded at sea. The last time they were stationed here, in 2018, they removed 211 crab pots from Port Gardner Bay.



### **TAKE PORT'S BOATER SURVEY**

The Port of Everett has launched a survey that asks for public opinion on the Port's boating access and public facilities. This survey will help identify priorities and preferences for projects that either improve or add to boater facilities and access. It asks about the boat launch, guest docks, Jetty Island, public restrooms, laundry and shower facilities and more.

Visit <u>portofeverett.com/boatersurvey</u> to provide your feedback.



#### **CLEAN MARINA RECERTIFICATION**

The Port of Everett Marina has been recertified as a Clean Marina! The Port earned this designation by conducting operations with the goal of protecting the environment, reducing and properly managing hazardous waste, promoting clean boating practices, protecting salmon, shellfish and other valuable resources and improving safety and working conditions. The Port has held its Clean Marina title since 2007; the Port was recertified on Jan. 24.

## FISH & WILDLIFE OFFICE Moves to Marina Village

The North Puget Sound office of the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW) has moved to the Port of Everett's Marina Village. The regional WDFW office dropped anchor in a 1,000-square-foot space in suites 227 and 228. The Port Commission authorized the new three-year lease on April 5.

## 'Moor' Things to do at Port's Waterfront Place

Future Restaurants

Cold brew with a snowcap of foam. Prosciutto and pear flatbread pizza. Dim sum stuffed with locally caught salmon and crab. Rare bourbon whiskey from Pappy Van Winkle.

These are just a few of the menu offerings at new restaurants now open or opening soon at the Port of Everett's Waterfront Place!

Find five new restaurants at the Port's expanding mixeduse community surrounding the largest public marina on the West Coast: Sound 2 Summit Brewing Co., Woods Coffee, The Muse Whiskey & Coffee, Fisherman Jack's and South Fork Baking Co.

Here's what's on the menu:

#### SOUND 2 SUMMIT BREWING CO.

Sound 2 Summit Brewing Co., which opened June 9, can be found in one of two new buildings located at Port Gardner Landing, just south of the Grand Avenue Park Bridge. The Snohomish-based brewery has expanded its popular tap list and serves up a variety of salads, fold sandwiches and flatbread pizzas at its new 3,000-squarefoot space with a dog-friendly courtyard.







#### **WOODS COFFEE**

In the second building at Port Gardner Landing is Woods Coffee with a 2,000-square-foot café, featuring a drive-thru for added convenience. Woods Coffee, which opened on June 29, roasts its own beans in-house and bakes its made-from-scratch sweet and savory treats at Woods Bakery.

#### **THE MUSE WHISKEY & COFFEE**

The 100-year-old Weyerhaeuser Building, which once housed the Everett mills headquarters for the Weyerhaeuser Company, officially reopened on July 12 in its centennial year as The Muse Whiskey & Coffee near Boxcar Park. The Weyerhaeuser Muse is a coffee house by day and a speakeasy-style whiskey bar by night with picturesque waterfront views (see page 8).

#### **FISHERMAN JACK'S**

The Asian-inspired Fisherman Jack's featuring Chinese favorites made with Pacific Northwest seafood, including dim sum, rice bowls and noodle dishes, is located in a new 6,000-square-foot building on Fisherman Harbor's "restaurant row," just south of Hotel Indigo. Fisherman Jack's is set to open in late August.

#### **SOUTH FORK BAKING CO.**

Located just next door to Fisherman Jack's in the same building is South Fork Baking Co., expected to open by summer's end. South Fork offers a variety of baked goods, espresso and sandwiches — and also has plans to host cake decorating and pastry skills classes.

#### AND, THERE'S EVEN MORE TO COME!

Watch for more openings and announcements on the horizon at Waterfront Place located off West Marine View Drive between 10<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> streets, including a wine walk with Covington Cellars | Two Vintners and Hamilton Cellars (see right), Lazy Boy Brewing, Rustic Cork Wine Bar and Menchie's at the Marina, among others. Learn more about what's coming to Waterfront Place at waterfront-place.com.



## Hamilton Cellars Signs Lease for 'Wine Walk' at Waterfront Place

Hamilton Cellars has inked a new 10-year lease with the Port to add a wine tasting room at Waterfront Place.

Hamilton Cellars is the second lease to be announced for the Port's coming destination retail "wine walk" along the Port of Everett Marina — the largest public marina on the West Coast. The Port Commission approved the lease on June 6.

The wine walk offers up to 12 tasting suites in two new buildings to be added at water's edge between Port Gardner Landing and Marina Village at the South Marina. All spaces offer expansive outdoor patio, connected public spaces and piazzas, and rooftop deck options overlooking the Marina and Port Gardner Bay.

Hamilton Cellars, which has a tasting room at its vineyard on Red Mountain, joins Covington Cellars | Two Vintners in the future project.

The Port's destination retail "wine walk" buildings are in design now and will be built by the Port's private development partner The Schuster Group. The project is expected to break ground in 2024, with tasting rooms opening in the 2026-2027 timeframe.

The Port is in active negotiation and recruitment for remaining spaces now, with more announcements coming soon.

## Paving the Way to the Millwright District

On Aug. 2, the Port of Everett broke ground on a \$13 million project to kick off infrastructure construction in the Millwright District — the second and largest phase of the Port's Waterfront Place mixed-use development.

The work, being performed by Burlington-based Interwest Construction Inc., builds the new Millwright Loop Road and connecting roadways and infrastructure (see right), starting with relocation of existing preload material from the roadway footprint and placing it in future construction locations. Next up will be the installation of utilities, paving of roadways, esplanade expansion, including build-out of two new vistas overlooking the Marina, and construction of two parking lots, new sidewalks, lighting and landscape features. This phase of work is expected to run through fall 2024.

In the meantime, the Port's private development partner, LPC West, is preparing to break ground on the mixed-use elements, starting with residential, in 2024.

Learn more @ portofeverett.com/millwrightconstruction.



# 1923-2023 HISTORY REIMAGINED

## THE MUSE WHISKEY & COFFEE NOW OPEN AT FULLY RESTORED HISTORIC WEYERHAEUSER BUILDING THE NEW ESTABLISHMENT DOUBLES AS A

WATERFRONT EVENTS VENUE AND MUSEUM

An iconic piece of Everett history has been brought back to life this summer as the historic Weyerhaeuser Building at the Port of Everett's Waterfront Place celebrated its official grand reopening as The Muse Whiskey & Coffee a coffee house by day, and a speakeasy-inspired whiskey bar by night.

The Port and its partner NGMA Group, owner of the new establishment, held a ribbon-cutting on July 12 to com-



The Prohibition Era-inspired decor at The Muse Whiskey & Coffee pays tribute to the history of the Weyerhaeuser Building, which was built in 1923 to house the headquarters for the Weyerhaeuser Company's Everett mills.

memorate the occasion, which brings the building back into community use in its centennial year.

The Port and NGMA Group kicked off restoration last year with goals to restore the structure to its former 1920s glory while maintaining state historic standards. The decor pays tribute to the history of the building — when you step inside, you'll feel as though you've stepped back in time.

The menu features espresso and sweet treats by day and gourmet bites, craft cocktails and assorted liquors — including a long list of whiskeys — by night.

"OVER A YEAR AGO, MY WIFE, JIN MA, AND I SAW THIS BARE-BONES BUILDING AND IMMEDIATELY KNEW WHAT WE WANTED. WE HAD VISITED SCOTLAND AND STAYED AT A BED-AND-BREAKFAST THAT HAD EXCELLENT SERVICE, DELICIOUS DRINKS AND A DESIGN THAT FELT VINTAGE WITH A MODERN TWIST. FROM THAT DAY ON, WE HAD A DREAM OF OPENING A RESTAURANT IN THIS BUILDING WITH THAT SAME LOOK AND FEEL. OUR DREAM HAS COME TRUE."

#### JACK NG

OWNER OF THE MUSE WHISKEY & COFFEE

The building is open Sunday-Thursday from 7 a.m. - 10 p.m. and Friday-Saturday from 7 a.m. - 11 p.m. The coffee bar's hours are 7 a.m.-4 p.m.; the full-service whiskey bar is open by reservation and walk-in as space allows from 4-10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and 4-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday.



The Muse Whiskey & Coffee, which opened on July 12, operates a coffee bar from 7 a.m.-4 p.m. daily and a whiskey bar from 4-10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and 4-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday.

"The transformation that we're seeing here on our waterfront is all due to the fantastic investment of the Port of Everett, in this community and in our economy," City of Everett Mayor Cassie Franklin said. "As mayor, it is my duty to support a high quality of life "This is an exciting milestone and, in my view, the perfect next phase of life for a building tied to our mill town roots here at the waterfront. This ornate structure has stirred up much curiosity and affection over the years, and now Jack and Jin's team at NGMA Group have curated an excellent food and drink menu for people of all ages to come and experience the history of this restored showpiece. I think you'll be wowed. No detail was overlooked."

#### GLEN BACHMAN

PORT OF EVERETT COMMISSION PRESIDENT

for our residents and visitors alike, and restaurants like this are exactly what our community needs to enjoy."

The 100-year-old building, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, now also serves as a waterfront events venue for local boating clubs and special events, and doubles as a museum.

"What a wonderful tribute to Everett history we have here today and what

a great example of historic preservation," said Jack O'Donnell of Historic Everett. "I want to thank the Port Commissioners past and present for saving this building, and I'd like to thank the very capable Port staff for shepherding this project to fruition. Any one of them could tell you more about the history of this building now than I could, with the research that they've done."

## TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE WEYERHAEUSER BUILDING WITH PORT'S NEW HISTORY WEBSITE

THE PORT OF EVERETT HAS LAUNCHED A WEBSITE THAT LETS YOU EXPLORE THE ONCE-BOOMING TIMBER INDUSTRY ON THE EVERETT WATERFRONT THROUGH THE BUILDING'S HISTORY

The Port has created a new website that serves as a virtual museum of the Weyerhaeuser Building — as well as how the Weyerhaueser Company influenced the nation's timber industry and greatly impacted Everett's history.

Whether you find yourself exploring the building onsite or online, you'll find nine historical categories that help tell the story of the Weyerhaeuser Building: Making of a Milltown, Weyerhaeuser Mills in Everett, Influential People, Building Architecture & Layout, History on the Move, Timber Sources & Types, Making Headlines, Weyerhaeuser Company and Women of Weyerhaeuser.

The renovated building features museum-like elements, from historic

imagery to informative plaques. Thanks to QR codes, you can go on a selfguided tour and learn about the rooms you visit or the photos and plaques you see in real-time.

#### **BUILDING HISTORY**

The historic Weyerhaeuser Building's ornate Gothic-style structure was erected in 1923 at the Weyerhaeuser Company's first Everett lumber and shingle mill. Architect Carl Gould was commissioned to design the 6,000-square-foot, one-and-ahalf-story building to showcase the company's local wood products such as fir, cedar and hemlock. The Weyerhaeuser Company was Everett's largest employer for decades.

The now iconic building resided at two of Weyerhaeuser's largest plants before finding its way to the Port of Everett's waterfront. The building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1986. After Weyerhaeuser's use, the building was home to the Everett Chamber of Commerce for many years. But the local beauty has been sitting vacant



for decades since then. Today, the Weyerhaeuser Building serves as a reminder of and tribute to Everett's mill town roots and the once prevalent lumber and shingle industry on its waterfront.

SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT WEYERHAEUSERMUSEHISTORY.COM TO EXPLORE THE PORT'S

NEW HISTORY WEBSITE



# THE EQUATOR A MARITIME MARVEL

## AFTER 135 YEARS, THE EQUATOR FINDS A NEW PURPOSE

IN JUNE, THE PORT OF EVERETT PARTNERED WITH TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY TO DOCUMENT THE ICONIC VESSEL AND SHARED PLANS TO MEMORIALIZE HER BEFORE SHE IS LAID TO REST

About 300 people attended the Port of Everett's *Equator* Community Open House on June 15 to celebrate the maritime legacy of the schooner-turned-tugboat. The deteriorating vessel is being dismantled in late August.

Students studying maritime archaeology and conservation sat Texas A&M University provided a behind-the-scenes look as they documented her remains. Renderings for a new interpretive exhibit and new children's ship-themed playset coming soon to the waterfront were shown. Plans to salvage some of her materials so parts of the vessel can live on in local art were also shared (see page 11).

The Port's goal is to honor the *Equator's* history — as a testament to the esteemed builder's workmanship, a link to one of the most famous writers of the 20th century, a nod to the vessel's contribution to the maritime industry, and as a reminder of the boat's many lives in her storied career from 1889 to 1956.

While Everett has no direct link to the *Equator* during her service years, the vessel has been an iconic figure at the Everett waterfront since she was put on display here in the 1960s. Both time and the elements have since taken their toll on the wooden structure.

"Many may not know that this sailing schooner once chartered by Robert Louis Stevenson spent most of her life as a humble Puget Sound tug, towing larger vessels and felled logs through our waterways," Port of Everett CEO Lisa Lefeber said. "With her stern having collapsed a while back and the determination that rehabilitation and relocation are not feasible options, it's time we memorialize the vessel so the journey that led her to the Port of Everett can live on.









Clockwise, from top: Students studying nautical archeology at Texas A&M document the Equator before she is dismantled later this summer. The Equator is drydocked at the Port's 14th Street Dock circa 1967. A shipbuilder's drawing of the schooner Equator as she was built in 1888. The vessel spent much of her life as a humble tugboat.

Partnership with Texas A&M is a wonderful opportunity to have quality documentation of the vessel to preserve this important history into the future, along with some other exciting ways we are planning to honor her memory."

#### **VESSEL DOCUMENTATION**

Students studying nautical archaeology and conservation at Texas A&M University were on site to document the *Equator* with state-of-the-art technology. Two professors and a cohort



Above: A Texas A&M student uses LiDAR to document the Equator. Right: An Equator-themed playset being installed at

Right: An Equator-themed playset being installed a Jetty Landing Park in early August.

of eight graduate and undergraduate archaeology students were learning current techniques to record, analyze and, when possible, conserve heritage boats. The graduate students are pursuing a master's degree in affiliation with the Institute of Nautical Archaeology.

For the Equator project, students used a combination of 3D laser scanning technology (LiDAR), high-definition photography and photogrammetry, as well as traditional recording methods to document the structure of the ship. Samples of her timbers will also be analyzed for wood species and organic material identification and further dendrochronological analysis, and then properly documented for historical record.



The student work will serve as a case study for similar vessel documentation efforts into the future when preservation is not feasible.

#### INTERPRETIVE EXHIBIT

An interpretive exhibition about the *Equator's* legacy will soon be fabricated for display at the Port's Waterfront Center near the interior entrance to Scuttlebutt Family Pub. The exhibit will include historical photos, a timeline of the vessel's storied career, a map showing her many journeys through the seas and a 1:48 model of the ship itself. The Port was loaned a model of the *Equator* built by Robert Yorczyk of the Washington Ship Model Society in Washington, D.C. The 26-by-36-by-12-inch model will be the showpiece of the interpretive exhibit.

Yorczyk was inspired to build a miniature of the South Seas trading schooner because he has fond memories of teaching in a Samoan village while serving in the Peace Corps in the '70s.

#### JETTY LANDING PLAYSET

In early August, a new shipthemed children's playset in honor of the historic *Equator* was being installed at Jetty Landing Park near the boat launch.

The playset, which offers ADA accessible features, includes slides, deck-to-deck climbers, a porthole panel, a nautical bow, a stern climber, a pipe wall and a tower. Pacific octopus and baby orca whale climbers will be added later this year.

#### LOCAL ARTWORK

The Port of Everett is also working with award-winning sculptor John Grade, from Seattle, to salvage some of *Equator's* timber so that the vessel can live on in art. The Port plans to commission one of his sculptures. Grade's installations include "Wawona," a sculpture made from Douglas fir salvaged from the hull of the historic schooner, which is in the Museum of History and Industry in Seattle. Visit **johngrade.com** for more information.

## THE EQUATOR: A HISTORICAL SNAPSHOT

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The *Equator* was removed from a breakwater along Jetty Island in 1967. The Everett-based *Equator* Foundation hoped to restore the boat to her former glory; sadly, it proved to be a challenging project and funding fell short. In 1972 she was the first historical asset in Snohomish County to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The vessel — constructed in 1888 by renowned boat builder Matthew Turner — is said to be the last of its kind in North America. Her colorful history includes a voyage through the South Pacific with author Robert Louis Stevenson, work as a tender to an Arctic whaling fleet and towing service as a Puget Sound tug. When her champion, Eldon Schalka, died in a plane crash, the momentum to resurrect the *Equator* was lost. After some time located at the Port's Marina Village, the boat was moved to a shed near the Jetty Landing Boat Launch.

In 2017, the stern of the vessel collapsed, crushing any lingering hope of restoration. After searching for an organization to rehome the historic boat to no avail, the Port obtained custody of the *Equator* in 2022 to document, memorialize and repurpose her materials.

Scan the QR code to learn more or visit portofeverett.com/equator.



## CARGO ON THE MOVE AT NORTON TERMINAL

Since the opening of the Port of Everett's Norton Terminal late last year, more than 2,050 containers and over 9,000 tons of breakbulk have moved through the new terminal.

The first cargo moves between the Port's modernized South Terminal and new 40-acre cargo terminal were completed in January. Swire Bulk vessel the *M/V Pakhoi* offloaded 217 containers.

"OPENING NORTON TERMINAL WAS A PROUD MOMENT FOR ME AS A COMMISSIONER. NOT ONLY DID WE GET THIS SITE BACK INTO USE AFTER A DECADE VACANT, WE HAVE RESTORED JOBS HERE, ADDED EFFICIENCY TO THE SUPPLY CHAIN AND CLEANED UP THIS CONTAMINATED SITE. THIS IS THE TYPE OF WORK WE DO AT THE PORT."

#### DAVID SIMPSON PORT OF EVERETT COMMISSION SECRETARY

The opening of the Norton Terminal marked the first all-new cargo terminal to open on the West Coast in more than a decade. It adds critical cargo capacity to the national freight network to enhance movement of commerce throughout the global supply chain.

The \$40 million investment completed environmental cleanup and development of the uplands at Norton Terminal — the cornerstone of the Port's \$150 million Mills to Maritime initiative.

## PORT OF EVERETT NAMED

The Port of Everett has been named 2023 Job Creator of the Year by the Washington Public Ports Association (WPPA) for its \$40 million Norton Terminal cleanup and redevelopment project. WPPA, a member organization representing the interests of the 75 public port districts in Washington state, presents its annual Job Creator of the Year Award to



Norton Terminal was funded in part by a \$17.75 million federal BUILD grant and \$9.15 million in Ecology grants.

The effort transformed the former Kimberly-Clark mill site into a new maritime hub at the heart of Everett's working waterfront — between two federally secured facilities — the Port of Everett's international seaport and Naval Station Everett.

The project also realizes the full potential for the Port's recent \$57 million South Terminal modernization investment that added a new full-service berth in Everett in 2021 to support larger ships and heavier cargo.

#### SOUTH TERMINAL + NORTON TERMINAL UPGRADES INCREASE HANDLING CAPABILITIES HERE'S A SNAPSHOT OF CARGO MOVED THE FIRST HALF OF 2023



recognize a member port dedicated to creating sustainable, family-wage jobs for the people of their port community. The project put the former Kimberly-Clark mill site back into job-producing use, transforming the once-contaminated waterfront parcel into a sustainable and productive maritime hub that now supports more than 950 jobs.

The Port of Everett Seaport has also been short-listed for Heavy Lift's 2023 Port/Terminal Operator of the Year Award an international recognition — for the second year in a row!

## WEYERHAEUSER MILL A CLEANUP STUDY IN REVIEW

The Weyerhaeuser Company's former Mill A site, located at the south end of today's Port of Everett Seaport, is at the top of Washington state's environmental cleanup list.

Since 2020, the Port has been working with the Weyerhaeuser Company and the Washington State Department of Ecology to conduct a study to determine cleanup options for the site that encompasses the Port's South and Pacific Terminal berths. The Port submitted a draft study to Ecology on Jan. 17. The contamination in review stems from the former mill operations on site, and the study presents viable options for cleaning it up. The cleanup will take into account the requirements of the Port's modernized South Terminal and Pacific Terminal, which have been upgraded to handle a more modern class of ships, as the industry continues to trend toward larger ships and heavier cargo.

The Port has been awarded the first-ever extended grant agreement by the state, essentially giving the project's funding request the highest priority.



## GREENING THE **SUPPLY CHAIN**

## **LEGISLATURE AWARDS** PORT OF EVERETT SEAPORT \$5 MILLION FOR ELECTRIFICATION, MODERNIZATION



The Port of Everett has been awarded \$5 million in community project funds from the Washington State Legislature to expedite plans to electrify Pier 3 and help modernize its international seaport.

Dock electrification is one of many efforts underway at the Port of Everett Seaport to help "green" the supply chain. In this case, electrifying Pier 3 and modernizing other infrastructure and utilities will immediately reduce carbon footprint and further improve air quality at the working waterfront. The project eliminates use of diesel generators at Pier 3 and makes infrastructure improvements to enhance resilience of the Port.

This forward-thinking investment in maritime infrastructure also sets the Port of Everett's facilities up for a more sustainable future, adding the capability to support future innovations in maritime, such as electric tugs now in development.

"The Legislature has made massive investments in electrifying our transportation sector in recent years, but I was especially excited to secure funding for such a crucial project in our community in Everett," said state Sen. Marko Liias (D-Everett). "Electrifying Pier 3 will help protect our environment for future generations all while modernizing the maritime industry - a massive win for Everett!"

Constructed in 1973, the 650-foot Pier 3 dock has had continued upgrades since the 1990s. Upon completion of this next set of upgrades, it is expected that over 630 tons of carbon dioxide will be eliminated in the first year alone.

One of the many components of this project is installing infrastructure to support future electric plug-in capabilities to serve an emerging market of all-electric harbor craft, including tugs, barges and more, that could dock here in the near future. This effort will spur further reduction in emissions and support decarbonization initiatives in the shipping industry.

"This investment will contribute to restoring the health of the Puget Sound and further encourage the development of a greener maritime and trade industry," said state Rep. Julio Cortes of the 38th Legislative District. "I am proud to be part of a project that will invest in upgraded supply chain infrastructure while reducing greenhouse gas emissions."



The Port of Everett Seaport has been recertified by Green Marine! Green Marine is a voluntary environmental certification program for the North American maritime industry that assists its participants in improving their environmental performance beyond the scope of current regulations. The program addresses key environmental issues through various performance indicators, and includes shipowners, ports, terminals, seaway MARINE corporations, and shipyards. To maintain commance annually, Port agrees to assess its environmental performance annually, submit the results of these self-evaluations for verification by

an accredited external verifier biennially, publish the results of these evaluations, and commit to a process of continual improvement. In 2022, the Port adopted new practices which resulted in the advancement of levels in the Underwater Noise and Spill Prevention and Stormwater Management performance indicators. The Port has been a member of Green Marine since 2017.

## **CLEAN AIR A KEY** SEAPORT FOCUS

The Port of Everett works with other Puget Sound ports to ensure we continue to meet federal air quality standards and regularly implement emission reduction measures. The Port is a voluntary member of the Puget Sound Maritime Air Forum, which is committed to reducing air emissions associated with maritime transportation. The next Puget Sound Maritime Air Forum report is currently in the works. While the forum anticipates seeing some increases due to record shipping levels during the pandemic and supply chain crisis, these reports help move the needle on the good work Puget Sound ports are doing to reduce our overall carbon footprint.

## SHOREPOWER IS WAY OF FUTURE

The Port of Everett has embraced the concept of installing infrastructure to support the future of shorepower as part of its Seaport Modernization efforts. Shorepower is the provision of shoreside electrical power to a ship at berth while its main and auxiliary engines are shut down. While it remains unclear when shorepower systems will be standardized for the class of ships that currently call Everett, we are working to ensure infrastructure at our Seaport berths can support the shift to shorepower throughout the maritime industry in the future.



## PORT HOSTS MARITIME DAY, Attends school career fairs

The Port of Everett hosted a Maritime Day for local educators on April 18. The event focused on incorporating maritime curriculum into more classrooms. The Port also attends maritime and traderelated career fairs and speaker series to highlight maritime job opportunities and promote a skilled and diverse workforce in Snohomish County. This spring the Port took part in events at Sno-Isle TECH Skills Center, Arlington High School and Alderwood Middle School, reaching more than 2,200 students.

### PORT OF EVERETT MARKS 26<sup>th</sup> Consecutive year of clean Financial audits

The Washington State Auditor's Office has presented another clean audit report to the Port of Everett, marking 26 consecutive years of financial audits with no findings.

Representatives from the State Auditor's Office conducted its annual audit this spring, reviewing the Port's financial documents, federal reporting, and operational accountability over the period Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2022.

"I'm so proud of our Port team who continue to push major economic development initiatives forward fiscally responsibly," Port of Everett CEO Lisa Lefeber said. "I want to especially thank and recognize our diligent finance team led by CFO Eric Russell and Finance Director Bob Marion whose leadership was instrumental in reaching these milestones."

The audit focused on review of the Port's financial statements to obtain reasonable assurance that they are free from material misstatement, as well as accountability in five primary areas — financial condition, self-insurance, Open Public Meetings Act compliance, cash receipting and the accounts payable process.



## PORT COHOSTS INTERNATIONAL DELEGATIONS TO PROMOTE BUSINESS

The Port cohosted the SelectUSA Seattle Spinoff on April 28 and the Americas Competitiveness Exchange on May 16 where the Port team met with and provided tours to delegates from around the world to promote business opportunities in Snohomish County, including in the maritime, aerospace, industrial, manufacturing and energy industries. Event partners were Snohomish County, City of Everett, Greater Seattle Partners and Economic Alliance Snohomish County.



## JAPANESE EXCHANGE STUDENTS Tour Port of everett seaport

The Port of Everett was happy to partner with Everett Community College to take exchange students from Iwakuni, Japan — a sister city to the City of Everett — on a tour of the Port's international seaport on Aug. 3. The Japanese students stayed in Everett for about two weeks for their studyabroad program offered through EvCC's Japanese Cultural Resource Center. In addition to the Port, they also visited The Boeing Co. and Pike Place Market.

## IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE LATE SEN. JOHN McCOY



The Port of Everett was saddened to learn of the passing of former state Sen. John McCoy on June 6. McCoy, a Tulalip Tribes elder, was a champion for students, the environment, economic development, the region's tribes and much more. McCoy was a tireless supporter and reliable partner of the Port of Everett in the effort to clean up and restore Snohomish County's environment, including the Everett waterfront and the Snohomish River Estuary. His legacy will continue through these projects, which benefit the recovery of native salmon and Southern Resident orca.

The Port is grateful for McCoy's focus and work to solve key issues here in Snohomish County. He will be deeply missed. We extend our condolences to McCoy's family, friends and the Tulalip community.

## PORT'S HARBOR ATTENDANT KATHY SMITH RETIRES AFTER 15 YEARS



Many congratulations go to Kathy Smith on her retirement from the Port of Everett after 15 years of public service. She retired on Aug. 9. Smith was hired in 2007 as a Marina Maintenance Helper. She was promoted to Fuel Dock Attendant in 2015 and to Harbor Attendant in 2022. During her time at the Port, Smith helped with landscaping and maintenance, tying up boats so they can fuel up, and payment and inventory of guest moorage. Kathy's roles over her Port career have made her one of our most familiar faces on the docks. Over the years we have received many compli-

ments about Kathy's friendly demeanor and excellent customer service.

## LIZ OLSON RETIRES AFTER 14 YEARS AS PORT'S HR MANAGER



We're congratulating Liz Olson on her retirement from the Port of Everett after 14 years of public service. She retired on June 2. Olson was hired in 2009 as the Port's Human Resources Manager. During her time at the Port, Olson managed job recruiting, compensation, employee and union relations, benefits and classification. She also helped organize Port employee recognition events, as well as the Port's annual United Way campaign. Prior to her time at the Port, Olson also worked in HR for Skagit PUD, Everett Community College, Washington State Ferries, Purdue University and Se-

attle University. Congrats, Liz! We wish you happiness in your retirement!



Jim Weber (far right) poses with other staff members in 1982, including current Marina Operations Journeyman Chris Kadet (top).



# **LEAVING HIS LEGACY**

After nearly a half-century of public service at the Port of Everett, Marina Operations Director Jim Weber has retired. To date, Weber marks the longest-tenured employee in Port history.

Marina Operations Director Jim Weber retired on July 31 from the Port of Everett after 43 years of public service as a full-time employee.

More impressively, Weber worked at the Port for a total of 47 years if you count part-time employment. He started here when he was 16 as a summer seasonal during his high school and college years, coming on full-time in 1980 with the Marina Maintenance staff. He was promoted to Maintenance Journeyman, and then to the Marina Maintenance Foreman. He finished his career as the Marina Operations Director, a position he held for many years.

Throughout his Port career, Weber helped design, build, maintain and upgrade many of the Marina's facilities and projects. From the South, Central and North Marinas to the Jetty Landing Boat Launch, Jetty Island Docks and Boxcar Park, Weber was involved with all of them. He also helped design the Craftsman District Boatyard and Office and was part of the Waterfront Place project planning team.

Weber was involved with and enjoyed the many events at the Port throughout the years. He helped start Wheels on the Waterfront, Sail-In Cinema, Holiday on the Bay and the waterfront concerts. He also attended opening day of boating and fishing derby events, among others.

Weber is very proud of the Marina Operations and Office staff. They have received many awards for running the largest public marina on the West Coast, including earning the national title in 2019 as *Marina of the Year* by Marina Dock Age — a huge honor for the Port. When he thinks back to what the Marina was when he started to what it has become today, he is very proud of what the Port team has accomplished.

"When I started here, the Central Marina was the only basin," he said. "Look at us now!"

Weber said he will miss his Marina and Port family, including all of the marina slipholders, yacht clubs and professional contacts that he has considered family and great friends over four decades.

"The Port staff and boaters have always been like family to me," Weber said. "That is what has always made this a special place for me."

Thank you for your 47 years of service, Jim! We will miss you! Enjoy your welldeserved retirement!

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING PORT OF EVERETT EMPLOYEES

### **NEW HIRES**

- **Kyle Buchanan,** HR Administrator
- Mallory Good, Assistant Controller
- Jeremiah Hobbs, Marina Security Officer
- S Bryan Johnson, Marina Operations Manager
- Gary LaRoque, Assistant Facilities Manager
- Cage Tanaka, Associate Project Engineer

### **PROMOTIONS + TRANSITIONS**

- Will Armstrong, Maintenance Helper
- Solution Cook, Accounting Technician
- Erik Gerking, Senior Director of Environment, Planning & Strategic Projects
- Carmen Hernandez, Payroll Administrator
- **Chris Peterson**, Maintenance Journeyman
- Jake Robbins, Maintenance Apprentice
- 🛛 🅑 Ben Thornton, Marina Harbor Attendant
  - Chuck Wilson, Maintenance Apprentice

#### **CAREER MILESTONES**

- Carl Wollebek, 30 Years
  Kyle Moseley, 30 Years
  Kimberly Shanks, 30 Years
- 🕑 Duane Ostman, 15 Years
- Michael Goodale, 10 Years
- Walter Seidl, 10 Years

EXPLORE PORT JOBS @ PORTOFEVERETT.COM/JOBS



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## FINISH THE YEAR WITH FUN!



LUNCH & LAUNCH FOOD TRUCKS SATURDAYS THRU AUGUST 26

PACIFIC ICE COMMUNITY ICE RINK DAILY, NOVEMBER 17, 2023 - JANUARY 8, 2024





MUSIC AT THE MARINA THURSDAYS THRU AUGUST 31

SAIL-IN CINEMA OUTDOOR MOVIE SERIES FRIDAYS THRU AUGUST 25

PUGET SOUNDS STEEL DRUMS FRIDAYS THRU AUGUST 25



JETTY ISLAND DAYS SEASONAL FERRY THRU SEPTEMBER 3; ISLAND OPEN YEAR ROUND

KAYAK SHARE RENTALS

FREEDOM BOAT CLUB



SALMON FOR SOLDIERS AUGUST 19

EVERETT COHO DERBY SEPTEMBER 23-24

## HARBOR TOURS

PORT OF EVERETT WORKING WATERFRONT HARBOR TOURS WEDNESDAYS THRU AUG 23

"THROWBACK THURSDAY" HISTORIC EVERETT WATERFRONT HARBOR TOURS THURSDAYS THRU AUGUST 31

## WATERFRONT FESTIVALS

SIP ON THE SOUND (FORMERLY EVERETT UNCORKED) AUGUST 18–19

WHEELS ON THE WATERFRONT CAR SHOW AUGUST 26

MUKILTEO LIGHTHOUSE FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER 8-10

HOLIDAY ON THE BAY DECEMBER 2



## WALKS & RUNS

OUT OF THE DARKNESS WALK SEPTEMBER 30

WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S OCTOBER 7

> SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFO!





Save the date! **PACIFIC ICE RETURNS** November 17, 2023 - January 8, 2024



Experience the magic of the winter season at the Port of Everett's Waterfront Place. The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Pacific Ice Pop-Up Ice Rink is returning Nov. 17, 2023 - January 8, 2024. Glide gracefully on real ice as you immerse yourself in the spirit of the holidays. New this year, we're introducing "Fire & Ice" and "Magical Mondays." Cozy up to waterfront firepits and savor the ooey-gooey goodness of s'mores on Friday and Saturday evenings. Meet fan-favorite movie characters at the rink on Mondays (check website for details). The rink is also available for holiday party rentals. **Learn more @ pacificice.com.**