

THE PORT REPORT

Port of Bremerton Newsletter • Spring 2024

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Foreword From Port Commission Secretary Axel Strakeljahn

Spring has finally arrived, and along with the welcoming weather, the Port of Bremerton is excited to be moving forward on many new projects which will add to Kitsap's employment base and growth of the largest Industrial center west of Seattle.

We are privileged to announce that we will once again host the 2024 Second Annual Bremerton Air Show at Bremerton National Airport on August 17th and 18th, 2024. We are expecting a great turnout, and there will be lots more to see and do for all our community members. For our aviation enthusiasts, you will be pleased to know that with the help of FAA funding, we are updating the instrument approach lighting and landing system. This will soon be up and operational with the latest technology and will be much more user-friendly.

We have been fortunate to acquire funding to complete an aviation study to determine the future growth and potential expansion of Bremerton National. As the region continues to grow in population and Sea-Tac is at its maximum capacity, smaller regional airports will be needed to support the continued growth of air travel.

Our Port Commissioners and staff are actively working to acquire funding to continue the Airport Industrial Way roadway. This addition will open an additional 130 acres of land for new development, which is greatly needed for the growth of commercial and industrial expansion opportunities. We are diligently seeking new commercial/industrial partners to locate on Port property.

One of our tenants is well underway with building a new facility to expand their boat production factory, adding close to 70,000 square feet of production and showroom space. Completion is slated for the fall of 2024.

Our Port Orchard marina is looking forward to a new breakwater to replace the aged one currently in place. With most of the design and engineering complete we expect the bid process to begin this fall and construction to begin in 2025. We are planning to build the new Breakwater off site and truck the breakwater floats to the marina as is it is more cost effective.

A new event at the Bremerton marina and boardwalk is the Bremerton Boardwalk Night Market, free to attend and featuring food, music, makers, and a beer garden. This event is taking place on the Fridays of May 3rd, June 7th, July 5th, and October 4th. Transportation and freight corridors continue to be a focus as we support and look to improve the Gorst corridor and Belfair freight corridor.

During my years of service as your Port commissioner I have always strived to grow our economic opportunities and employment base for all of Kitsap. I am pleased to report we have grown from 900 to over 3,000 jobs currently at the Port of Bremerton.

Recently, we were awarded the prestigious recognition of being the 'Port of the Year' from all Ports in Washington state. I want to take this opportunity to Thank our incredible Port staff for making this award possible.

Sincerely, Commissioner Strakeljahn



POB's Earth Day Adventure

This year, our Port of Bremerton team spent Earth Day removing trash from Old Mill Park & Clear Creek Trails in Silverdale, with partnership from Crista Shores Senior Living. While adjacent to our own districts, we pride ourselves on being the largest Port in Kitsap and strive to improve life for all of the County.



Port Commission President & CEO Take on the Capitol!

This February, our Port Commission President Gary Anderson and CEO Jim Rothlin had the pleasure of joining our elected officials in Olympia. As our opportunity to discuss all things Washington Public Ports related, they were pleased to find that Senator Emily Randall took time in her busy schedule to discuss our personal Port matters. As a governmental unit, we rely on the support of our entire community to ensure that we are enabled to continue helping Kitsap County.



NEW Airport-Centric Newsletter BEHIND THE HANGAR DOORS

In case you missed it, we are happy to announce that we have launched a brand-new communications forum geared towards connecting our community here at KPWT! This newsletter will feature one pilot based at Bremerton National Airport every issue, with the goal of helping us all get to know one another better. While the publication may be called 'Behind the Hangar Doors', everyone is encouraged to join the discussion!

To date, we have published two issues, with another on the way for May 2024. You can read all issues by clicking the 'News' tab on our website: www.portofbremerton.org.



Doug Haughton | Issue 001

In the premier issue, Doug shared his personal journey with aviation, along with what the community here at KPWT means to him.



Harry Anderson | Issue 002

Harry Anderson has become an expert at adventure, having flown solo to all seven continents and completing his journey of sailing solo to all seven continents. He tells how this life found him.



Jim Posner | Issue 003

In this yet-to-be-released issue, Jim explores his connection to the aviation industry and the advice he has for the next generation of pilots.

BEHIND THE HANGAR DOORS

YOU'RE INVITED!

Contact ericaf@portofbremerton.org to schedule your interview.

Preschool Tours Avian Flight Center

One of the airport's business tenants, Avian Flight Center, had the joy of providing a tour of their facilities to



the Adventure of Faith Preschool as part of their field trip. There was

approximately 54 children who attended and got the chance to take a peek at the world of aviation.



Cole Barnes Joins the Team

Cole Barnes has joined the Port in the role of Airport Manager, bringing with him his experience of being a licensed pilot



and having worked at an Oregon airport. Cole was hired in April of 2024 and says he is most excited to be working with our tenants and being 'for' them. He most enjoys fishing on the canal and boating in the Sound.

Tres Sapos, LLC NEW BUSINESS TENANT TAKES FLIGHT

The Port of Bremerton's Bremerton National Airport has had the pleasure of welcoming a new business tenant, Tres Sapos LLC, to our airfield. This company currently owns the Gig Harbor Vintage Aero Museum. As well as signing a 50-year land lease with the Port, they also are the new owner of a 12,000-square-foot hangar located next to State Highway 3. Here they will work on a secondary museum location and service jets at Bremerton National Airport. Furthermore, they have plans to host secondary events within their hangars, such as fundraisers or weddings.

"We are looking forward to our newest hangar tenant at the Port of Bremerton's National Airport," states Port CEO Jim Rothlin. "We appreciate the services they plan to provide to our airport and community."

With this addition, we are looking forward to welcoming not only a community amenity but also an amenity to our visiting businesses. This company's proven success in Gig Harbor gives us confidence that it will make a positive impact on Kitsap.

"The addition of Tres Sapos to our Port of Bremerton Community is a welcome business entity that will offer a new and desirable feature to Kitsap County and the Port family of tenants," says Port Commission President Gary Anderson. "The interest from Tres Sapos to join the Port of Bremerton demonstrates the increasing desire from outside interests to become a long-term fixture in our community. We welcome Tres Sapos and wish them every success."

Happenings, Events, & Projects At Our Port of Bremerton Marinas

The Port Orchard and Bremerton Marinas at the Port of Bremerton have great things happening this year. In Port Orchard, a new Mosquito Fleet Festival will be celebrating the historic ferries of the turn of the century. The festival will have booths, entertainment, and free history cruises in the Sinclair Inlet on the historic 1917 Carlisle II and Virginia V. The 125' steamship Virginia V is the last operational example of a Puget Sound Mosquito Fleet steamer. The Virginia V



will also be docked and offering tours and cruises for the festival from the Port Orchard marina.

Downtown redevelopment in Port Orchard continues with multiple construction projects that will transform the waterfront including a new Library, Commuity Center, a pedestrian trail, and a beautiful waterfront plaza. The Port of Bremerton is undertaking a \$15 million dollar Port Orchard Marina breakwater project that will replace the fifty year old floating breakwater that protects the Port Orchard Marina and provide new mooring for visitng boaters and large vessels. The breakwater replacement has been in design and permitting and will begin construction in early 2025. This vital maritime infrastructure will be the biggest waterfront project that the Port has undertaken since the construction of the Bremerton Marina.



In Bremerton, cruise ship season has begun with American Cruise Lines returning to dock their cruises weekly at the Bremerton Marina. Passengers enjoy the scenery and disembark to visit local destinations including the USS Turner Joy Museum, Puget Sound Naval Museum, excursions to Poulsbo and Port Orchard, and an outing to visit Chief Seattle's resting place. The local cruise ship brings passengers from around the country to visit our local ports of call

including Port Townsend, Friday Harbor, Tacoma, Port Angeles, and of course, Bremerton.

The Port of Bremerton marinas continue to be centers of bustling activity and entertainment with ongoing farmers markets, weekly concerts and upcoming events like the 4th of July fireworks, Bridge Blast celebration, and the Blackberry Festival.

The Return | August 17-18, 2024 BREMERTON AIR SHOW

If you missed our exciting announcement, we're here to get you back in the know! The Bremerton Air Show is returning to Bremerton National Airport this Summer, August 17-18. This event will have the same exciting, gravity-defying, and powerful characteristics as last year, but with the furthered addition of performers! Namely, we have a hometown hero making a comeback...

Bremerton Air Show CEO Doug Fratoni stated, "We are very excited to host the US Navy F/A-18 West Coast Super Hornet demonstration team and the US Special Operations Command Para Commandos this year. Bremerton is home to one of the F/A-18 pilots that will be flying, so come out and see a hometown hero demonstrate one of the Navy's top-tier aircraft. There is a little something for everyone: sign up online on our website to get the airshow insights and special offers. We thank all our sponsors who made this event happen. If you want to join the growing list of sponsors, please visit the Bremerton Airshow website and click the link provided."

With an event as long-awaited as the Bremerton Air Show, we encourage everyone to get their tickets as soon as possible. In all, there will be overhead aerials, a variety of food vendors, children's activities, and surprise additions. All ticket, parking, and volunteer information can be found on their website: www.bremertonairshow.com.

"It was a joy to see the impact this captivating show made on our community last year, especially as it was multigenerational," states Port Commission President Gary Anderson. "We look forward to bringing such a wanted activity for our local community again this year and are confident it will be another great hub for economic generation locally."



Meet the Commissioners



Gary Anderson President **Term:** Jan. 1, 2020 -Dec. 31, 2025

District 2: Downtown Port Orchard, portions of Eastern South Kitsap



Cary Bozeman Vice President **Term:** Jan. 1, 2022 -Dec. 31, 2027

District 1: West Bremerton, portions of East Bremerton, Kitsap Lake, Chico



Axel Strakeljahn Secretary **Term:** Jan. 1, 2024 -Dec. 31, 2029

District 3: Portions of South Kitsap, Southwest Bremerton, Seabeck/Holly/Crosby

Did you know that you can attend commission meetings? Head to portofbremerton.org/commission-meetings for dates & meeting links!



Jim Rothlin, Chief Executive Officer P: (360) 813-0821 E: jimr@portofbremerton.org Direct contact for all things Port of Bremerton!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Join & tag us on socials - the best way to stay informed and interact! **@portofbremerton**

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Are you a tenant that wants to be featured by the Port? Contact ericaf@portofbremerton.org for more info!