



hood canal bridge closure!!

Options That People Can Use To Get Across Or Around Hood Canal

No, a barge from the Fred Hill Pit to Pier Project has not damaged the bridge. The bridge will be closed for six weeks starting in May 2009 in order to replace the East side of the bridge.

The Washington State DOT has gone to great lengths to mitigate the effects of the bridge closure and has extensive information on the WEB at 'HoodCanalBridge.com'. Four main options that people can use to get across or around Hood Canal are described below and illustrated in the attached figure.

1. Ride a free 149-passenger Water Shuttle Service across Hood Canal, between South Point in Jefferson County and Lofall in Kitsap County.
2. Take the Port Townsend/Keystone ferry to Whidbey Island and then either drive North to I5 or drive South and take the Mukilteo ferry.
3. Drive around the Southern end of Hood Canal.
4. Take the nightly Sunday-Thursday car ferry between Edmonds and Port Townsend. It will leave Edmonds at 8:40 pm and then leave Port Townsend at 10:40 pm. The ferry will have room for six 82 foot tractor-trailers, 86 passenger vehicles, and 1200 foot passengers.

Other options are Kenmore Air from PT or private charter from PT to Boeing field with shuttle to SeaTac or other locations. There is also the possibility of private boat chartering services.

The DOT has built two temporary 1,500-vehicle park and ride lots, one on the east in Port Gamble and one on the west side at Shine to facilitate the ferry shuttle service. On both sides of the water, the shuttle dock will be limited to transit buses. An express service will operate between the park and ride and the water shuttle docks. Vanpool and carpool vehicles and bicyclists will utilize the park and ride on each side and will not be allowed to park or drop off passengers at the ferry docks.

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Hood Canal Bridge Project May-June 2009 Bridge Closure

www.HoodCanalBridge.com
1-877-595-4222



- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| Clallam Transit Express Route
1 Port Angeles Gateway Transit Center
2 Sequim Transit Center
3 South Point | Jefferson Transit Route 7
1 Port Townsend Park and Ride
2 Lawrence and Tyler
3 Water and Quincy
4 Four Corners
5 Jefferson County Library
6 Port Hadlock QFC
7 Oak Bay and Olympus
8 Port Ludlow (Breaker Lane)
9 Gateway Visitors Center Park and Ride
10 South Point | Kitsap Transit Express Route
1 Lofall
2 Port Gamble
3 Kingston Ferry Terminal
4 Poulsbo Transfer Center
5 Kitsap Mall
6 Winslow Ferry Terminal |
|---|---|---|



Hood Canal Closure Route Options

In order for people from Kala Point to use the water shuttle they will either drive to the park and ride lot at Shine and take the bus to the ferry or they can catch the bus from Port Townsend which will drop them off at the ferry dock at South Point. The bus stops are: Port Townsend Park and Ride, 4 Corners, Jefferson County Library (Hadlock), Port Hadlock QFC, Oak Bay and Olympus, Port Ludlow and Breaker Lane, and the Gateway Visitor Center. Parking appears to be very limited except at the Port Townsend Park and Ride and the Shine Park and Ride.

After arriving at South Point and taking the shuttle ferry to Lofall, there will be buses at Lofall which will go to Silverdale, Poulsbo/Winslow, and the Port Gamble Park and Ride where a bus can be taken to Kingston. Detailed bus schedules are available on the Web.

Continued from previous page

Service animals and animals in pet carriers will be allowed on buses and the water shuttle. All other pets will be prohibited.

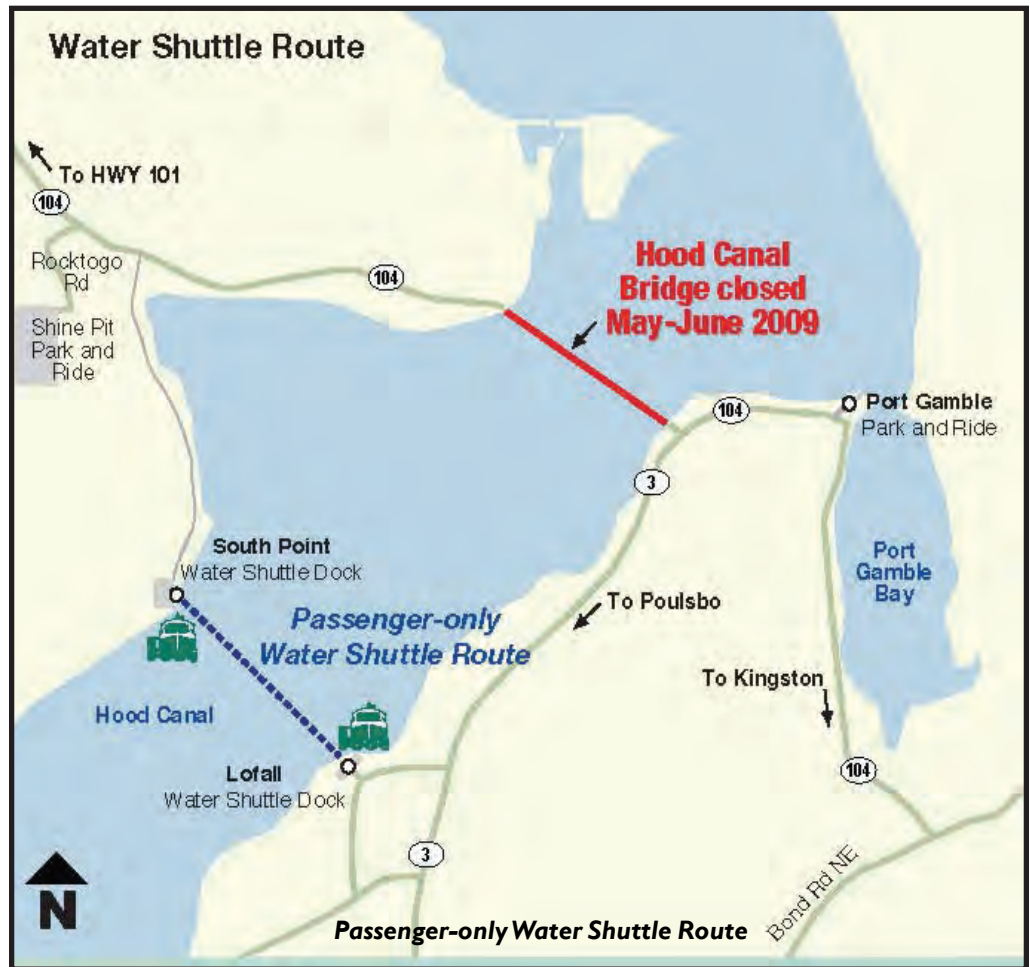
For the bridge closure a medical bus service will be provided. The medical bus is a fare-free reservation-based service. The service will be available to individuals who receive ongoing medical treatment and do not require constant monitoring or care – such as dialysis or chemotherapy – in Kitsap County and Seattle. For appointments in Kitsap County, the bus will transport riders between the Lofall water shuttle dock and medical destinations in Kitsap County.

For appointments in King County, the bus will transport riders from Lofall to the Bainbridge Island ferry terminal. Another fare-free bus will transport passengers between the Seattle ferry terminal and medical destinations in Seattle. Return rides to the Lofall ferry dock will also be provided. This medical bus is not designed for emergency service.

For emergency medical care community organizations and healthcare providers are taking steps to make sure people get the care they need. Fire Districts and ambulance companies will provide transportation on both sides of Hood Canal. The water shuttle will have a section designed to accommodate patients being transferred and transported via

stretcher. The water shuttle will be docked at South Point daily from 11 pm to 4 am and will be on call to assist with medical transports.

For additional information on the Hood Canal Bridge closure, check the HoodCanalBridge website, contact Jefferson County Transit at 385 4777 or contact WSDOT Hood Canal Project Office at 253-305-6400. The Washington DOT would like people to plan ahead and be prepared for the closure.



There are interesting videos on the HoodCanalBridge website of the bridge opening. Especially interesting is the opening of the West side which is how the new Eastside will open also. In order to get to the videos go HoodCanalBridge.com, click on FAQs, and then scroll down (a long ways) to the question 'Can I watch the draw span open'. Then click on 'three videos' and select the ones you wish to watch.



personal finance

Where to Invest for Current Income & IRA Distributions

By: Hank Krist

With interest rates as low as they are, it's difficult to find an investment which pays a reasonable but safe return. If an investor does not want to buy 3-5 year bank CD's, a reasonable alternative is a combination of a money market fund and a GNMA bond mutual fund. A GNMA fund is a bond fund which invests in mortgages and pays interest and principal monthly which is backed by the US government. While there is no payment risk in a GNMA fund, there is interest rate risk in that, if rates rise, the market value of the fund declines. The Vanguard GNMA fund has an average maturity of 1.5 years so the interest rate risk is minimal. A good combination would be to divide funds between a Vanguard money market fund paying 2% or slightly more and a Vanguard GNMA mutual fund currently paying approximately 4.5%. I would expect interest rates to remain relatively low for awhile. When they do rise, the market value of the GNMA fund will decline, but the interest rates paid by the money market fund will increase. In a way, it's a form of hedging. Please remember that the GNMA fund can be sold at any time so there is no penalty such as early withdrawal of a CD.

For those of you who have been taking mandatory distributions from your traditional IRA, you may not be aware of legislation passed by congress in December. Mandatory withdrawals for 2009 have been suspended for one year. If you became 70-1/2 in 2008 and delayed a payout to 2009, you must still take it by April 1. Rules regarding IRA distributions can be confusing so if you're in doubt, please talk to a tax accountant.

naval undersea museum

The Naval Undersea Museum is the official U.S. Navy Museum about undersea history and science and is located in Keyport, near Silverdale. **Admission and parking is free!**

The moment you drive into the parking lot the excitement begins. You will see 2 diving submersible research vessels one which completed the study of the wreckage of the lost nuclear submarine Thresher and the other has completed several salvage jobs including the recovery in 1969 of the flight recorders from two airliners that crashed near Los Angeles.

Right outside the entry, you will see the sail from the submarine Sturgeon, a nuclear submarine built in 1963 which was the first of 37 fast attack, or anti-submarine, submarines.



Some of the indoor exhibits include: Undersea Weapons; Mine, Torpedo, and Submarine Technologies, and a Large Artifact Area.

There is also is a simulation of the control room from the USS Greenling which includes two periscopes, ship's steering yokes and control equipment, ballast control panel, and actual weapons control equipment from the USS Greenling to allow visitors to walk inside a reconstructed control room of a recent U.S. Submarine.

The museum is closed on Tuesdays and major holidays. Winter hours (Oct. through May) are 10am to 4pm. For more information email underseainfo@kpt.nuwc.navy.mil or call 360-396-5547.

kala point cable operator broadstripe files bankruptcy

Mounting Losses and Credit Crunch Take Toll; Local Impact Unknown



Local cable operator Saint Louis based Broadstripe, which began life back in 1998 as

Millenium Digital Media, subsequently acquiring the area assets of several small community cable operators, including that serving KP, has run out of credit and options to continue growth and upgrades. Broadstripe, what is known in the trade as an “MSO” or multiple-systems-operator depended on a continuing supply of cheap credit to simultaneously swallow up small systems and then invest heavily in upgrades.

Only upgraded digital services, Internet access and cable-telephony services afford sufficient profit to fund expensive upgrades. Traditional “cable tv” video only services are typically operated at a loss. Powerful competition from phone company internet services added to classic telephony and similar services via satellite, have made small scale cable operations increasingly harder to fund and the recent financial sector collapse has become “the last straw” for small operators.

With razor thin margins and frozen funding it’s relatively small scale of operations, with just 300,000 homes served in Maryland, Michigan, Oregon and Washington, the firm found it impossible to continue without bankruptcy protection after January 6th.

Typically staff is reduced and service responsiveness suffers in these circumstances, but eventually a larger or better-funded

operator steps in to absorb the customers to satisfy terms of negotiated franchise agreements.

In the case of Kala Point, however, no franchise agreement was ever established with KPOA, which would govern terms of service, and therefore no fees are paid to the association for the right to construct and operate serving infrastructure in the community streets. Also, there is no contract mandating service; only an easement allowing free use of property easements by the cable operator. Absent a franchise there really is no legal obligation for Broadstripe to continue service here, although typically the account base in an area like this, with high-speed internet and digital entertainment products, would be an attractive acquisition or debtor-in-possession opportunity.

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kpoa in review

Some Not So Random News and Views

■ **A Kala Point Owners' Association, (KPOA), member recently requested relief from having to pay the entire 2009 assessment** of \$ 719.89 by 15 January. The KPOA Board refused the request citing additional bookkeeping time and effort with a consequent increase in cost to the Association. In these difficult economic times it is not unreasonable to expect that others in our community would also appreciate the relief which would result from a multiple payment system for assessments. The CC&Rs, Article VI, Covenant for Assessments, Section 3. Regular Assessments states: Each Member shall thereafter pay to the Association his Regular Assessments in installments as established by the Board. Establishing a multiple payment system for assessments would not be in conflict with the KPOA governing documents.

It seems in this day of computer records keeping that the cost of receiving, recording and tracking the payment of assessments should not be very significant once a tracking system is established. The additional cost in administrative costs to the Association should be no more than \$ 5 per assessment payment unit. In a two payment system in which the second payment would not be due until 30 April the loss in interest to the Association would be less than \$ 5.

In support of its members why not establish a two payment system which would require 50% of the assessment to be paid by 15 January and the remaining 50% paid by 30 April with a \$ 10 fee added to the second payment amount? Members could each choose to use one or two payments.

■ **A KPOA member recently requested the Association to pay \$ 500 toward the \$ 1517.60 cost of removing a dangerous tree** which was threatening a neighboring property. The basis for the request was that the Tree Committee refused to approve the tree's removal about three years earlier. The subject tree was one of several trees for which the member requested approval because there were too many trees and to accommodate planned landscaping and deck modifications. The \$ 500 dollars was based on the fact that the removal was more costly because of the proximity of the neighbor's fence which had been constructed after the Tree Committee denial action. The Tree Committee has detailed records of the tree request. At the time the Tree Committee denied the tree removal the tree appeared healthy and not a risk. Removal for risk was not included in the tree request. **This incident is an example of the importance of our enforcement committees,** (Architectural, Tree, and Grounds), **establishing thorough records of all of their actions.** Kudos to the Tree Committee!

■ **The Bluff Management Advisory Committee, (BMAC), is proposing changes to the Bluff Management Plan, (BMP).** The changes include editorial, definition, scope and authority changes. The changes represent the experience gained after one year of operation of the BMAC during which they evaluated vegetation requests concerning the south one-third of the Kala Point community bluffs.

A definition was added for the term marine view: "*marine view will be taken to mean views of the sea and related objects that appear near in conjunction with the sea. Thus, a member's marine*

Continued from previous page

view could include views of Port Townsend, nearby islands, distant mountains that appear just above the water, and boats and ships on Puget Sound". The addition of this definition is welcome since it serves to reduce the subjectivity of a process which has been too subjective. It is interesting to note that views of the wetlands adjacent to our community are not included. Was this intentional or an omission? It is suggested that the BMAC address the wetlands and define if they are considered marine views.

A section was added addressing vegetation practices with respect to the Kala Point lagoon and surrounding wetlands. This is a vital sanctuary for wildlife, adds to the aesthetics of the community and buffers our bluffs from the action of adjacent Port Townsend Bay. Vegetation requests concerning the wetlands require careful consideration. The wetlands should not be used as an excuse to deny legitimate requests for restoration of marine views which effect current wetlands vegetation. If both the requester and the BMAC make a good faith effort, a compromise is usually available which will satisfy wetland protection issues and restoration of at least some of the lost marine view.

The BMAC is proposing that it be given authority to approve minor tree/vegetation actions in the bluff areas. This would change its role from purely advisory to the Board to that of an enforcement committee with limitations. This authority is the same type as that of the Architectural, Tree and Grounds Committees. Like all committee actions, decisions by the BMAC would be subject to appeal to the Board. This change is a reasonable response to experiences of the BMAC during its first year of operation. Minor vegetation alteration requests do not

require the comprehensive bureaucratic process in place leading to other bluff decisions.

The proposed changes to the BMP include acknowledgment of the importance of the general appearance of the landscaping around the Clubhouse and marine views from the Clubhouse. This is a welcome addition. While our maintenance personnel have been doing an excellent job of preserving and improving the Kala Point community's landscaping, the area around the water side of the Clubhouse has been neglected.

Also, over the years, the marine view from the Clubhouse has been severely degraded due to vegetation growth. Will this emphasis result in improvements in Clubhouse landscaping and view? Does this change mean the scope of the BMAC now includes responsibility for the Clubhouse grounds?

JUST FOR LAUGHS



'I CAN HEAR JUST FINE!': Three retirees, each with a hearing loss, were playing golf one fine March day. One remarked to the other, 'Windy, isn't it?'

'No,' the second man replied, 'it's Thursday.'

And the third man chimed in, 'So am I. Let's have a beer.'

SENIOR DRIVING: As a senior citizen was driving down the freeway, his car phone rang. Answering, he heard his wife's voice urgently warning him, 'Herman, I just heard on the news that there's a car going the wrong way on Interstate 77. Please be careful!'

'Heck,' said Herman, 'It's not just one car. It's hundreds of them!'

resolve for a healthier you You Can't Afford Not To!

By Michelle West

I can imagine, there are a lot of you that are thrilled that 2008 is over and have hope that 2009 will bring a refreshing change! For some of you, maybe it was illness, emotional, family difficulties, financially hard; whatever it was we can pin the same label on each of them: **STRESS!**

There are many ways individuals handle stress; some healthy, some not so healthy. I'd like to talk to you about one very healthy way to help overcome stress, and a lot of you are not going to like it; **EXERCISE.** Oh, I can here the objections already: "I don't have anymore time in my day." Let me ask you, how much time do you spend watching TV each morning or evening? How much time do you spend answering emails and surfing the web morning or evening? What are you doing during your lunch hour? Getting to the Fitness Center or walking even 20, 30 or 40 minutes can reap huge benefits! Evergreen Fitness Center is open at 5:30 a.m. weekdays, and many chose to come in before work, exercise and use the locker rooms/showers, and head off to work. There is early morning as well as evening group fitness classes with certified instructors that lead you through a full workout; you can practically leave your brain at home. Oh, but *don't go home first*; head straight to the gym!

"I don't have anybody to do it with me, or I would." Your next door neighbor just might be thinking the same thing; ask friends in your neighborhood; it's much easier to stick to that walk if you're accountable to someone else! As far as the fitness center, friendly staff, open spaces and plenty of other members to chat with (if you want) as you work through your exercise routine.

"I'm too old" All I can say to that is, "no, you're not!"

"Members of fitness centers all look great, I won't fit in." My response; "walk through the doors and that excuse will fly out the window! We're a collection of different ages, status', ethnic backgrounds and definitely sizes and shapes!"

"Fitness Center; I can't afford it." Have cable TV? Family goes out to dinner at a moderately priced restaurant more than 1 time a month? Buy more than 2 lattes/mocha's per week? Chu-ching! Evergreen Fitness Center cost the same or *less* than the above per month!

So, welcome, 2009, but this year, instead of just making a resolution that fades in 3-6 weeks, choose to make a life style change by incorporating exercise 3 days a week. Stress will always come into our lives; and exercise is one healthy way to overcome it. Take 2009 and make your health a priority.



Evergreen Fitness Center, near Old Fort Townsend State Park - "a stones throw away".

If you like to talk about more about exercise or joining a fitness center, you can reach Michelle West at: 385-3036, evergreenfitness@qwestoffice.net, or visit the website at: www.evergreenfitness.net

Here's to a less stressful 2009! -Michelle

the port ludlow garden club

Horticulturist at Wells Medina Nursery is speaker Feb. 11th



How many times have you seen a plant you admire, brought it home on impulse, and then wondered how to use it effectively? How many of us look at our gardens and

see a jumble (admittedly colorful) and want to see more of a sense of order? Now is the chance to learn how. On **Wednesday, February 11** at the Bay Club Jim Fox will speak on "Garden Editing –Making Sense of a Passion".

Mr. Fox is a garden consultant and head horticulturist at Wells Medina Nursery in Bellevue. He is a self-described "rabid collector of plants" and has realized the need to organize your garden into a basic design. He will explain design techniques to show your collection of plants to the best advantage year round for whatever your type of plant, be it roses, annuals, shade lovers or drought-tolerant natives. Finally he has some valuable tips on ways to make caring for your garden easier.

This meeting is a brown bag luncheon. Doors open at 11:00a.m. Beverage service and desserts will be provided by the Port Ludlow Garden Club.

Membership dues are \$20 for the 2009 year. Members may attend all lectures



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families for
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underground electrical feeders failing; again!

Previous Repairs Failing in 800 Block of KP Drive

On January 19th, a small armada of utility equipment responded to the latest in a years-long history of failing underground electrical cables along the shoulder in the 800 Block of Kala Pt. Drive. The failed conductors, carrying 12,400 volts to supply neighborhood transformers, have been spliced, partially replaced and repaired on at least two occasions since they originally failed in July 07, resulting in a twelve hour outage for more than 100 homes; repeated for 73 homes one year later, on August 15th.

deployed only when additional work is planned in the immediate future.

It is unclear how many homes were affected by this latest incident, if any. It may be that PSE fault detection equipment in the area reported early-stage arcing and ground faults before the conductors burned through and tripped breakers on the PSE feeder system.

As with much of the minimum-quality infrastructure at Kala Point, many original electrical primary service cables were not run in buried conduits, but simply buried in open trenches in or along the roadways. When these direct buried conductors fail there is a complicated technical locating process required to pinpoint where the failure has occurred,

excavate it, and make repairs.

Today PSE no longer permits developers to utilize this inexpensive method. The utility requires buried conduit systems from each transformer or switch to the next. Failed conductors can be rapidly pulled into these conduits upon failure, without digging in the streets.

The protective conduit also helps extend the life of

conductors. Plastic insulation on the heavy copper and aluminum primary cables, each carrying as much as 13.2 Kilo-Volts (KV), simply wears out over time in contact with soils, and heat stressed with more and more connected homes.



Small armada of utility equipment responding to failing underground electrical cables on Kala Point Drive.

A steel plate beneath traffic cones marked the still-open excavation a week after a large vacuum truck sucked out dirt around the cables and two PSE repair crews failed to complete restoration on January 20th. Typically steel plate temporary covers are

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Kala Point News & Views

kala point hiking club

Snowshoeing or X-Country Skiing on Friday's at Hurricane Ridge



By Allen Vaa

**Have you ever
thought about
snowshoeing at
Hurricane Ridge?**

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you can snowshoe!
Snowshoeing is
moderately strenu-
ous but no experi-
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**The Kala Point Hiking Club will carpool
to Hurricane Ridge for snowshoeing or**

cross-country skiing on predetermined dates.
Contact Allen Vaa to let him know if you would
be interested on going up on a Fri.

**Snowshoes, poles, and skis can be rented
at the Hurricane Ridge Ski Shop.** The fee
for snowshoes is \$15 a day (\$18 w/poles) and
only \$20 to rent cross-country skis for the day.
A driver's license is required to rent equipment.

**Brown's Outdoor in Port Angeles also
rents snowshoes** for \$10/day (\$15 w/poles).
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**If you are interested in going snowshoeing
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