

## "Charlie Wells" heads to Seattle for Maintenance and Inspection

### The Official Web Site of HMC Management

*The Homeowners' Association of Herron Island, Washington*

**In even numbered years, the ferry undergoes an out of water inspection by the Coast Guard.** While the ferry is out of the water, HMC contracts for ferry maintenance and repairs. Some of this is also performed by the crew. In the past, HMC has always obtained this service in Tacoma, but that has changed. This year, the ferry will, for the first time, be serviced and inspected in Seattle.

**Ferry Departure:** The ferry will leave early on **Sunday, October 16**. There will be no passenger runs that day.

**Small Boat Docks:** The small boat docks will remain in the water, but some floats may be removed if the docks are threatened by winter storms.

**Possible Burn Ban:** The Board of Directors will consider imposing an island burn ban during the ferry's absence at its October meeting. If they do, we will let you know. The burn ban does not affect use of interior fireplaces or fireplace inserts.

#### Emergency Services:

##### **In an emergency, first call 9-1-1!**

The **Fire Department** has arranged temporary moorage for its fire/aid boat at Longbranch Marina. Longbranch Marina is on the east side of Key Peninsula. Because of the late scheduling for the boat, the dock at Joemma will be out of the water and unavailable for fire department use.

This change in boat moorage will obviously increase response times to Herron Island by approximately 20 minutes. In the event of significant trauma or cardiac event, the department will request assistance from "Air Lift Northwest". Their response is strictly weather dependent and not a guarantee.

If you are staying on the island, we encourage you to consider enrolling in Airlift Northwest's AirCare. A 12 month household membership costs \$79. You can contact them at [www.airliftnw.org](http://www.airliftnw.org) for more information.

**Space MUST be left on the small boat dock** for a 30' fire emergency vessel. Boats left in the marked space will be moved. You can expect to see the aid/fire boat the weekend of October 15/16 as they familiarize themselves with the dock. They will also place a fire department van in the parking lot at North Beach for crew transportation.

**The Pierce County Sheriff** will respond to the island by boat, if needed. The PCSO boat is moored in Tacoma, but there are other marine resources available to the Department for response, and they will determine which resource is dispatched.

**Medical:** There is a **defibrillator** at the back of the Community Building, complete with instructions for its use.

**First Aid:** There is a first aid kit in the pavilion at North Beach on the inside of the north wall. And there is a small first aid kit just inside the back door of the community building. You will need to be able to access the building.

**Helicopter landing** area instructions are next to the defibrillator at the back of the building.

**The Water Maintenance Trailer** is fully equipped and several members have been trained in its use. **There will be another training session October 7, Friday, at 11 a.m. at the Community Building.**

**Emergency Preparedness Volunteers:** Mike Shettlesworth, Committee Chairman, will remain on the island during the project and will be available if needed, at 253-330-2482 or [Spyder50@live.com](mailto:Spyder50@live.com).

#### Utilities:

**Peninsula Light** will respond by sending personnel as needed, should there be a power outage or other need.

**CenturyLink** has been advised, and plans to access the island by small boat, if needed.

**Water:** Charles Smith, Water Distribution Manager, will be staying on the island. He can be reached at [hmcwater@herronisland.org](mailto:hmcwater@herronisland.org) or 1-206-707-4645.

**HMC Water** is equipped with an emergency generator, a reservoir of 99,000 gallons of water, and a backup supply of diesel fuel for the generator.

Here is Charles' advice, if you are staying off the island while the ferry is out, or going away for the winter. Turn your water off at the water meter. Remember that there is an on/off valve at the water meter for your water service or you can use the isolation valve installed in your water service. The water meter valve turns only 1/4 of a turn (or 90 degrees). If the holes are not lined up, the valve is open. When the holes are lined up, the valve is closed. Once the water service has been turned off, you can open a spigot or facet to relieve the pressure in the water service line.

With the holes on the water meter valve lined up, you can lock your water service in the off position. This will give you the assurance that the water service will not be used without your permission. As a reminder, you should leave a key with a trusted neighbor or friend. You may also want to leave a key in the residence as this key will not likely be used often and could be misplaced. If you want to have HMC lock your water meter for you, that service is available by written request for a \$50 fee. The cost to remove the lock when you return is the same. Please provide your name, contact phone number, and on-island address to the HMC Office ([office@herronisland.org](mailto:office@herronisland.org)) or HMC Water Department ([HMCWater@herronisland.org](mailto:HMCWater@herronisland.org)) if you would like to request this service.

**American Disposal** has been contacted. The company normally adjusts its schedule and fees for subscribers during the ferry's absence.

Questions? Please email me at [hmcmanager@herronisland.org](mailto:hmcmanager@herronisland.org)!