

March 21, 2006  
11:05 AM PDT

To: Editor: Belfair Herald

From: Carol Lavender-Willison, Citizen Port ofTahuya

Re: Open Letter to Chairman Jim Christen, Port of Tahuya Board of Commissioners

This is an historic time for Port districts in general as they watch what happens in the tiny Port of Tahuya. As your paper has reported, no Port has been shut down since the 1940's. What your paper did not say is that no active Port in the State of Washington has ever been shut down. The Port of Tahuya is operating in uncharted waters on a foggy day with no compass. In such a situation, those at sea depend on their captain's skills, knowledge, and courage to provide leadership. The counterpart of a captain in the Port of Tahuya is Board Chairman, Jim Christen. We, the Port, may be a disaster waiting to happen.

Regarding Port of Tahuya public documents, Commissioner Christen, our chairman, has stated openly to the public that he is too afraid of viruses to open his e-mail to the extent that he has been deleting correspondence from certain constituents without ever having read them—in the process, destroying public documents...and in that process, violating the law. His FAX machine is from time to time either broken, out of paper, or out of ink, and he fails to respond to either FAXes or written mail sent to PO Box 90 in Tahuya (which is what he says is his preferred means of communication). Having no other way to communicate with Commissioner Christen, who by the way is my elected representative, I am asking you to please publish this open letter to him at this very crucial time.

This letter is admittedly quite long. Perhaps it would work as a serialized piece. In any event, I appreciate your consideration of my letter.

Thank you.

Carol Lavender-Willison  
Tahuya, Washington 98588