

**Please Elect Carey & Carey
Your Write – In Candidates**

Thank you!!!

November 1st 2005

Dear Voter:

The following article was written by Angela D. Smith of the Bremerton Sun October 23rd 2003 - just over two years ago. It is of interest for a number of reasons. One reason we (Brad Carey and Harold Carey) would like to draw your attention to this article is that then, as now, firefighters were threatening to quit.

Does this sound familiar?

Quitting is the same thing the firefighters are now threatening to do if we (Brad Carey and Harold Carey) are elected fire commissioners.

In our 2nd letter dated October 21st 2005 we discussed our firefighters' current threats to quit, their self-centered interests and their lack of loyalty to the community.

It seems the more things seem to change, the more they seem to stay the same.

The Bremerton Sun article now follows:

TAHUYA FIRE COMMISSIONER
Small department creating big sparks

Angela D. Smith
Sun Staff

October 23, 2003

Bickering and finger-pointing have become the signature of Tahuya fire commissioner meetings, and both the incumbent and challenger for Position 1 agree that the problem needs to be fixed.

Firefighters and commissioners at the small community department west of Belfair are at odds over a variety of issues, including a new property acquisition and equipment that firefighters say they need and commissioners say they can't afford.

"Basically, what we've got is a struggle with the fire department trying to control the commissioners," said incumbent James T. Clark.

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He has called the group of fire department administrators a "social club."

"The biggest issue is trying to get the fire department working with the fire commissioners so we can do the things we need to do," Clark said.

Clark was raised in Mason County and has lived in Tahuya for 27 years.

Challenger Tom Wampold has owned property in Tahuya for 40 years and built a house there 10 years ago. He has been endorsed by the fire chief and other firefighters, and said it is the current commissioners' attitudes that hinder their ability to work together.

"You go to the meetings and they start talking and there's extreme bitterness," Wampold said.

"They (commissioners) should know that if things stay the way it is ... that the volunteers will quit and we won't have fire service."

Wampold said he's heard several firefighters threaten to quit.

Tahuya has an all-volunteer fire department. The next nearest station is about 20 miles away in Belfair.

Wampold has argued that the department could afford items firefighters are asking for, such as a shower and an engineer to look at the current fire station, if commissioners hadn't spent it on a new building.

Commissioners, who manage a yearly budget of roughly \$120,000, recently purchased the old Tahuya market.

Commissioners hope to build a new fire station there and will budget for it during the next five years, Clark said.

Reach reporter Angela D. Smith at (360) 415-2673 or at asmith@thesunlink.com.

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NAME: James T. Clark

AGE: 65

OCCUPATION: Retired manager

BACKGROUND: 30 years in civil service, most in management; fire commissioner since February

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NAME: Tom Wampold

AGE: 63

OCCUPATION: Retired attorney

BACKGROUND: Attorney, teacher, real estate investor, pro-tem Superior Court commissioner