

NEWS RELEASE

October 6, 2009

MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**411 NORTH 5TH ST
SHELTON, WA 98584**

TO: KMAS, KRXY, SHELTON-MASON COUNTY JOURNAL, THE OLYMPIAN, SHELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH MASON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CITY OF SHELTON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE SUN

RE: Mason County Fairgrounds

After considering all options available, the Mason County Commissioners have made the difficult decision to cancel the lease with the Port of Shelton for the fairgrounds property effective November 6, 2009.

This is a 50-year lease that was entered into in 1963 and was due to expire in 2013. Several meetings with the stakeholders have been held to explore all possibilities and it is no longer economically feasible for Mason County to continue this lease.

Mason County must prioritize the services it provides and with our revenues continuing to decline, the County will no longer be operating the fairgrounds. We are hopeful the community will step forward to continue the fair and rodeo tradition.

We appreciate the years of dedicated service our citizens have provided.

Tim Sheldon
Chair

Lynda Ring Erickson
Commissioner

Ross Gallagher
Commissioner