

**G.R.I.T. UPDATE Friday, July 13, 2006**

(email us at [lorettastorm@seanet.com](mailto:lorettastorm@seanet.com) if you wish to be placed on our email distribution list)

**Local Sultan PD will stay; library's future remains n doubt**

**The Sultan City Council last night voted to keep its Sultan PD.** In a lengthy 46-minute discussion before a full house which overflowed into city hall's foyer, Councilman Bruce Champeaux led the debate to maintain local law enforcement services. City Administrator Deborah Knight was directed to present various options to "fill in" when the city is light an officer or two. (Currently, the SPD is under-staffed, with only six officers. The legal level of service mandated in Sultan's Comprehensive Plan is 2.6 uniformed officers per 1,000 population; thus, it is 5 officers shy.) A 30-second KOMO-TV STORY, which included a statement by Sultan Council Candidate and unwavering Sultan Police supporters Kerry Ourada. (We could find no ONLINE LINK to this story before distributing this email, but KOMO will no doubt run this story again this morning.)

**In a related story** (from Sultan resident Traci Hoenstine) the mystery of the **disappearance of the "Thank you, Chief Walsler" signs** erected at Sultan's west entrance has been solved. The signs were removed last Tuesday, July 3rd, magically reappearing yesterday. Here's her explanation:

"The signs are back up! Thanks to Corporal Berg of the Sultan Police Department he has solved the crime! Two city employees, one at the instruction of the other, had the signs removed. This was unknown to Deborah [*Knight*] who found out once the signs were recovered through the Sultan public works department (thanks to Corporal Berg who went there to look). Deborah has apologized to me, held a meeting with the two involved in the theft because technically I believe that is what it is, and made sure they understood the seriousness of their actions. She apologized to me on the phone and per my request has agreed to post an explanation and apology on the sultan website tomorrow 7-13. Deborah was professional in her conversation with me and very apologetic. I was thankful to have the signs back. If you get the chance, please email and thank Corporal Scott Berg at [s.berg@sultanpolice.org](mailto:s.berg@sultanpolice.org) " (GRIT NOTE: Or leave a message for him at SPD's main phone line, 360.793.1051, ext. 4)

We plan to have the complete audio uploaded this morning at [www.ittakesgrit.org](http://www.ittakesgrit.org).

**Whether Sultan's Library is abolished** (or continues in a different form through taxpayer-supported annexation with Sno-Isle Regional Library system) will be addressed, along with other alternatives on the table to "fix" Sultan's almost-\$500,000 general fund deficit -- will be **reviewed and discussed Thursday, July 19th, 6:00 PM**, 319 Main Street when the council's Finance Committee meets to decide which recommendations they will present to the full council at their July 26th meeting. The July 19th committee meeting is open to the public. We encourage all who have an interest in these issues, and the future of Sultan, attend.

L. Storm, Co-founder, G.R.I.T.