

ptleader.com

Daily news, connections for Port Townsend & Jefferson County, Washington

- Home
- Classifieds
- Blogs
- Events
- Visitors/Travel
- Links
- Videos
- Photos
- Publications
- Puzzles

planner, explained that shifting dollars between project tasks, the long-term impact of the project is not as significant as it might seem. The county weather should help the project, Peterson said. In already had \$29,062 in cash on hand.

At that point, Peterson said, the county would be poised to capture American Recovery and Reinvestment Act money in the coming months. Maintaining forward momentum with Strategies 360 is key, Peterson said.

Strategies 360 has many goals for the first in a series of workshops to gain community input. Some residents, who have been in the office since November, said the voters come November. Filing for the office, which drew six candidates for the interim appointment, opens in June.

Public Utility District 1 board. Parks, St. until Dec. 31 a Leader reporter, acknowledged that the voters come November. Filing for the office, which drew six candidates for the interim appointment, opens in June.

could, it would require the district residents, new and old, to be involved. The state Department of Ecology 17 (WRIA 17), which encompasses the agricultural-rich Chinaman

qualifications of the candidates. When the commissioners returned to the office, Kinney said. The nomination second the nomination. McMiller did not nominate Bob Sokol, former Port of Port Townsend commissioner.

Would you like to read our entire print publication online?

home : news : news

Share

May 28, 2010

5/26/2010 6:00:00 AM

Tragedy in Mexico: Zack died doing what he loved

By Patrick J. Sullivan of the Leader

In the most tragic of accidents, Port Townsend's Zachary "Zack" Chambers died doing what he loved – being in the water.

Zack, 40, was on a dream vacation to the beach in Mexico with his wife, Nya, and sons Eli, 14, and Keenan, 7.

On May 18 they were in Sayulita, a fishing and surfing village north of Puerto Vallarta on Mexico's west coast. It was their fourth day of what they described to friends as a vacation of a lifetime; Zack especially loved water sports.

After playing in and around the water for hours that day, Zack went in for one more swim before the family took went back to their cabin in Sayulita.

He ran into the ocean and jumped into a wave.

Some combination of the wave's energy and the hard, sandy bottom left Zack floating face down in the water, family friends relayed.

Family members brought him onto the beach. Other swimmers/beachgoers rallied around and helped provide CPR and emergency aid.

Chambers was conscious when he was brought ashore but could not move or speak. He was unconscious when an ambulance arrived after about 45 minutes.

The U.S. Embassy sent Kelly Trainor, a counselor agent, to assist the family at the hospital. Trainor helped them get a flight home for the following day. Seattle-area people who live in the village looked after the boys while Nya went to the hospital.

The word got around the beach the next day that Chambers had died. A small memorial of flowers was created.

Back in Port Townsend, the sad news spread quickly – a lot of people knew Zack because of his T-shirt business. Chambers was a graphic artist and T-shirt producer with a shop, H2O Graphics, in Port Townsend. Previously, he worked for many years for Weinstein's Custom Screenprinting in Port Hadlock. Nya and Zack, who met each other in high school in



Zachary Chambers



This is the stretch of beach in Sayulita, a fishing and surfing village north of Puerto Vallarta on Mexico's west coast, where Zachary Chambers of Port Townsend was fatally injured May 18, 2010 while diving into a wave.

Advanced Search

search...

search

Port Townsend

52°F

AccuWeather.com

Weather Forecast

TOP ADS

LITTLE & LITTLE, CONTROLLER, BOOKKEEPER

CAREGIVERS AND MEDICAL AIDES

JEFFERSON MENTAL HEALTH PSYCHIATRIST

Community Information

Properties For Sale

Nancy Stelow Realtor®, CLHMS



Home of the HOTTEST slots in town!



PORT ANGELES

PORT TOWNSEND SUBSCRIBERS: Look for our flyer in The Leader!



602 East 1st St. Port Angeles, WA 360-452-2357

Oregon, have a wide friend network here.

"It's a tremendous loss," said Janet Emery of Kinetic Koffee Kompany in Port Townsend, a business client and family friend. "He was an all around great guy. The outpouring of people who have come to be with Nya and the boys is truly amazing. People are embracing the family."

Zack was a student this year in Lela Hilton's Clemente Course in Port Hadlock, and she said this in an email:

"Zack was a brilliant student, and was in many ways the fire that held this year's class together," Hilton wrote. "He was always engaged and prepared, incredibly encouraging to the other students, offered rides, delivered homework to students who had missed class, and was particularly supportive of our younger students." Chambers will graduate along with his class.

An account has been established at Quimper Community Credit Union under the name of his wife, Nya Autumn Chambers. Call in a donation to 385-3663.

Friends also have plans in the works for a fundraiser this summer to create a scholarship fund for Eli and Keenan. Also, the family would like to raise money to purchase a portable defibrillator for the community of Sayulita.

A celebration of Zachary Chambers' life is set for Saturday, June 5 at 2 p.m. at the Marvin G. Shields Memorial American Legion Post in downtown Port Townsend.

An obituary is published on page B 2 of the May 26 print edition of The Leader.



Get the **WHOLE** story

Subscribe to the weekly Leader for just **75¢** per week!

- CLICK HERE -

The advertisement features a cartoon illustration of a man in a suit holding a newspaper titled 'The Leader' with 'EXTRA!' written on it. The text is arranged around the illustration, with the subscription price and a call to action at the bottom.

Related Links:

- [Helping children overcome loss of a parent](#)
- [Mexico Vacation Awareness](#)

Reader Comments

Posted: Thursday, May 27, 2010

Article comment by: **Jessica Williams**

To Zack's Friends and Family - Most of you have never met me but I have known Zack and Nya for about 16 years. I just knew right away when I met Zack that he was special. His light shone brighter than all of the others and he made me want to be a better person. I saw a lot of who I wanted to be in him. I have long admired Zack and Nya for the beautiful people that they are and their amazing relationship. My heart is saddened by his loss more than you know and my heart goes out to all of you. His life will remain an inspiration to us all.

Posted: Wednesday, May 26, 2010

Article comment by: **Bottero Libby**

Zack Chambers was a wonderful son, brother, husband, father, and friend! As long-time family friends, my son Asher and I have known Zack since he was born. He will be deeply missed. His loss is heart-breaking for everyone who ever knew him. His love for and commitment to his family and friends, his fun-loving and cheerful nature, his innate intelligence, integrity, and skill at work and play, and his extraordinary spirit and joie d'vivre are some of the many fine qualities that make Zack a truly exceptional man. His lovely wife Nya, and his fine sons Eli and Keenan, are embraced with love and tears. Zack leaves a beautiful legacy in them.

Posted: Wednesday, May 26, 2010

Article comment by: **Brady Chambers**



Get a 45 day payday loan at the same interest rate as a 14 day loan!
(Gives you 6 weeks to repay)

CAPITAL ADVANCE

Check Cashing
Free Money Orders
Bill Paying Service

360-385-6656
2122 W. Sims Wy, PT

The advertisement is for Capital Advance, a payday loan service. It features a red and white color scheme with a logo that includes a stylized 'A' and 'C'. The text is arranged in a vertical column, with the phone number and address at the bottom.



Think you have the best rates? Think again!

401K Rollovers
Life - Mutual Funds
Retirement
Auto - Home - Annuities

Bill Hubbard
Allstate
There are good hands.

The advertisement is for Allstate insurance. It features a blue and white color scheme with a photo of Bill Hubbard, a man in a suit. The text is arranged in a vertical column, with the Allstate logo and tagline at the bottom.



MOUNTAIN PROPANE

No Delivery/HAZMAT Fees!
24 hour Emergency Service
Locally Owned & Operated
Commercial & Residential
Tanks Leased & Sold
Propane Fireplaces

360-385-6883
Normal Hours: M-F 8-5
MOUNTAINPROPANE.COM

The advertisement is for Mountain Propane. It features a green and white color scheme with a logo that includes a mountain range. The text is arranged in a vertical column, with the phone number and website at the bottom.



Bun appetit!

DOG-A-FOOT
BUN APPETIT!
Water & Madson - PT

The advertisement is for Bun Appetit!, a dog treat business. It features a red and white color scheme with a photo of a dog's head. The text is arranged in a vertical column, with the business name and location at the bottom.



Specializing in NW hardy perennials

Willow Wind GARDENS

4 CORNERS RD & HWY 19
WED - FRI: 10-5
SAT & SUN: 10-3

The advertisement is for Willow Wind Gardens. It features a green and white color scheme with a photo of pink flowers. The text is arranged in a vertical column, with the business name and location at the bottom.