

BLUEBILL FLYER

November 2020



Olympic Peninsula Bluebill Newsletter Serving Clallam, Jefferson, and Kitsap Counties



Chair Barbara
Berthiaume

From the Chair By Barbara Berthiaume



Co-Chair
Needed

The pandemic is having an impact in many aspects of our lives and with the holidays looming, it can feel daunting. Covid has halted many things we have taken for granted including many Bluebill programs. In spite of this, Bluebills have demonstrated that there are still things that we can do to make a contribution. With community participation, we raised \$1,058 for Chimacum students K-6 in need of school supplies. The recent Cash for Gold event raised \$1,300 for the Peninsula Support Organization (PSO) to support future STEM programs. The builders continue to build wheelchair ramps and install grab bars in Clallam, Jefferson, and Kitsap Counties. We recently received a request for a wheelchair ramp that did not qualify for any other funding source. The need was heartfelt and the holidays were upon us. The Bluebills donated \$1,900 to fund this project and the builders went the extra mile to make it all happen.

continued

The source of the builders budget comes from people who make donations as a thank you for their volunteers efforts. The funds are then used to replenish building supplies to keep the program alive. We have restarted delivering World Vision goods to non-profits in the 3 counties. The 10th Annual Dove House Golf Tournament planning is beginning and information will be sent out after the first of the year. Normally, we would have our annual Christmas Giving Luncheon but because of Covid, that will not be possible. We are still partnering with the OlyCap Homeless Program to raise money to buy Christmas presents for 20 homeless children and are asking for Bluebills to reach into your pockets to help make Christmas brighter for these kids.

There are still ways to get involved to make a difference in our community and Christmas Giving is a good place to start!



BLUEBILLS
Serving Jefferson, Kitsap and Clallam Counties



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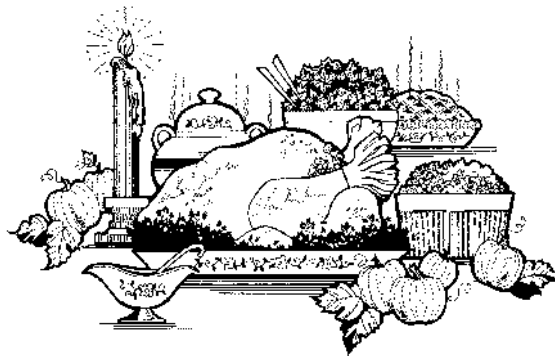
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Christmas Giving Program



Bluebills and Our Wonderful Community

Without our Christmas Social this year, it makes it harder for our Christmas Giving Program to support the kids of OlyCap homeless families. We are inviting the Port Ludlow community to donate to the Bluebills so we can purchase presents for 20 children under 18 years old. You can help by sending a check made out to “Bluebills” to **Laura Paul, 52 Bayside Court, Port Ludlow, WA, 98365** before DECEMBER 4th.

You can also help by volunteering to be a personal shopper for one or more children. On December 4th, we will have the total amount donated which we will divide by 20 and that will give us the amount we can use to shop for each child based on age and gender, which is all the information we get on each child. Over the years the shoppers have done a great job buying for the kids. Gifts must be received by December 16th, and volunteers will wrap the gifts before they are delivered to OlyCap by the 18th.

The Bluebills have been very generous in donating money at the Christmas Giving Social, and the average over the years has been approximately \$120 per child. We are confident that this year the Bluebills and the Port Ludlow community will meet the challenge in raising money for this worthy cause.

If you would like to help by being a shopper or a gift wrapper, please call **Laura Paul, 360-344-2494.**

We can make a special Christmas for these 20 kids.



November Calendar

NOVEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



Porch Rehab in Irondale

Thanks to Joe Gagnier, Todd Knoblock, John Fillers and Richard Myers for doing a great job in helping the client building an enclosed platform and front porch. She had fallen off cement blocks in front of her front door. She also needed a place to store wood for her wood heated home. Before installation of her porch, snow would pile up in front and she could not get to her firewood. We were able to use wood from the client's yard. Todd built the stair stringers from an old 2x12, and, John & Richard cut some old 2x8's lengthwise then glued and nailed them together to make the posts. We used leftover pieces of treated plywood from our storage for the platform floor. Our team donated the other materials.



Before the project, note cinderblock stairs.



John Fillers marks the post while Richard Meyers steadies the ladder. Todd Knoblock and Joe Gagnier supervise. Photo by David Parrish.



Richard Myers, John Fillers, David Parrish, and Todd Knoblock. Photo by Joe Gagnier.



Project complete. A nice little sheltered porch with solid, non-slip stairs.

JeffCo Builders

PSO Underwrites Port Townsend Ramp

The client said that her husband was in a nursing home in Arizona, and because of Covid-19 issues the nursing home sent all their residents back to their homes of record. She said that he was unable to enter or exit their tiny home on his own as he could not navigate stairs, and she was not capable of assisting him anymore. Dave and I witnessed this while doing the site survey. It took him 20 minutes with assistance to climb four steps. The client said that she did not have any spare money beyond daily living expenses and that she was unable to secure any financial assistance as she owns the tiny house but the land it sits on belongs to a friend. Real Estate Professionals for Affordable Housing (REPAH) said they were unable to help because the land is owned by a private homeowner but if the home was in a park or she owned the land they could have helped. The tiny home is only temporarily situated with no sewer or waste connections. We were not allowed to attach anything to the house. We were not allowed to dig any holes and the threshold was 32 inches above ground level. The property owner would not let us build a ramp straight out perpendicular to the house as it would encroach on his septic drain field so we could only come out from the house 12 feet and could not go past the end of the house on one end and trailer tongue on the other end. This situation required the use of pier blocks and unique bracing. The project turned out pretty well, all things considered. We ended up with two platforms and 32 feet of ramp in a switchback configuration. The PSO after consideration by the board, was able to fund this project. The team consisted of Todd Knoblock, David Parrish, John Fillers, Rich Morasco, and Joe Gagnier.



Framing is underway.

(Continued)



Setting the posts.



Installing the deck.



Finishing the steps.



Testing the railing...



50 manhours later and it's complete!



The clients on the left pose with the Builders' team– Todd Knoblock, Rich Morasco, Dave Parrish, and John Fillers. Photo by Joe Gagnier.

A Series of Unfortunate Events

A South Kitsap client went to the hospital with a blood disorder in her arm. While she was there the doctor found even more serious blood-related complications with her leg which required immediate amputation. Somewhere along the line she was exposed to Covid and had to be quarantined for 14 days. Then just as she was getting ready to be discharged from rehab she fell and broke her collarbone. Meanwhile, Bluebills built her a 40' L-shaped ramp, and we are crossing our fingers that there will be no more mishaps before she comes home.



John Read and Chip Godfrey. Leonard Hale was taking the picture.

BUILDERS

For the first few months after the CV quarantine, we did little in the way of builder jobs. However, we have been able to work out a process with our insurer, Catholic Community Services, that allows us to do most typical Builder work. You can see from the pictures and stories in this issue and prior Flyers that our Builders are finding ways to help.

Due to the CV and the fact that I have been on the DL (lung cancer operation) we have not been collecting the Builder data for the last few months. The data is extracted from the list of open and completed projects, which is useful in making sure requests are acted on and completed.

Starting in Oct., I hope to again set up the above lists. Most Jefferson and Clallam job requests seem to come to me so I have the data. Kitsap requests go through Bob Keever, and he maintains much the same data. By 2021 we should be caught up.

I can see from this episode that with my age and health if we want to maintain some kind of Builders record, I can't be counted on too much longer. I would like to see each county keep track of their own jobs which means a Builder Coordinator for each county.

Think this over. Thanks, Myron

Bluebills monthly Kitsap Builders data - 2020 thru 10/31											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	TOTAL
Ramps built	4	6	5			1	2	1	4	2	25
Grab Bars Installed	1	11	5			4	4	7	5	14	51
Railings Installed	2	7	2				3	5	1	2	22
Misc. Jobs done	8	7	15				2	5	2	2	41
# clients helped	18	19	14			2	8	9	6	10	86
# diff volunteers	8	9	11			3	6	6	6	5	54
# open projects	24	11	16			12	18	20	20	18	139

HAVE YOU REPORTED YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS?



REMEMBER: YOU CAN REPORT ANY VOLUNTEER HOURS! NOT JUST THE HOURS YOU WORK FOR BLUEBILLS. CHURCH, SCHOOL, COMMUNITY~ ALL OF THESE HOURS COUNT TOO!

EMAIL YOUR HOURS TO Judy McCay:
jimmccay@cablespeed.com

Volunteer hours for September, 2020

38 volunteers reported 710 hours. That is 19% of the Bluebill membership reporting hours for September.

November Birthdays

DON CREAMER	11/01
DENNIS BROWNE	11/02
RICHARD KNAPP	11/02
PAUL BENSON	11/05
MARIE BRODERSON	11/07
CANDY ANSTISS	11/10
SHARLENE SHIROMA	11/12
ARLEEN BAUER	11/14
FRANKLIN BENSON	11/15
SALLY HIRSCHMANN	11/15
GARY BEQUETTE	11/17
CAROLYN VOSS	11/17
KAREN KNOWLTON	11/22
JIM IRVIN SR.	11/23
JOHN D RATCHFORD	11/23
DOROTHY WINTER	11/27
RICHARD MORASCO	11/29
Z JACK RANDALL	11/29

Happy Birthday!

OFFICERS

CHAIR ~ Barbara Berthiaume barbara.berthiaume@gmail.com

CO-CHAIR ~ Vacant

1st VICE CHAIR ~ Jo Nieuwsma rocketmama@verizon.net

2nd VICE CHAIR ~ Bob Keever stableguy@hotmail.com

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Kitsap Co. Bob Keever stableguy@hotmail.com

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World Vision School Supply Distribution

Ed Berthiaume edberthiaume@gmail.com

World Vision Regional Coordinators

Clallam Co. John Behrens JEBWA52@aol.com

Karen Easterly-Behrens KAEB55@aol.com

Jefferson Co. Erica Mayfield emayfield@q.com

Hood Canal Bill and Candy Anstiss billandcandya@gmail.com

Kitsap Co. Calvin Williams willica05@gmail.com

School Weekend Feeding Program

Chimacum School Barbara Berthiaume barbara.berthiaume@gmail.com

Quilcene & Brinnon Bonnie Douglass lbdouglass@wildblue.com

Sequim Schools Charlie Johnson racer6j@hotmail.com

Fall Prevention Dave Parrish parrishdav@aol.com

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Dove House Tournament

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Myron Vogt vogt@cablespeed.com

Jefferson Co. Homeless / Dove House Support

Laura Paul rlplep@yahoo.com