



PENINSULA SERVICES
COMPANY PICNIC
MCCLOUDS RESTAURANT
SEPTEMBER 12, 2022



A Huge Thank You to everyone for coming out and making our 2022 Picnic such a success.

Meme King captured some of the attendees relaxing from work for a while. Also, many thanks are due to the **Voc Service Dept.** for pulling everything together. They did a stellar job. It was great to see everyone there, relaxing and having fun. We even had some of our newest Board members show up and they were impressed by your friendliness. There were a few prizes won and awards given, good food and fun games. Best of all, it was a time to meet and greet folks from other projects. Keep an eye out for another special get-together being planned for the holidays. **More on that soon!**



Service is the rent I pay for occupying space on Earth



Employee
of the year



Volunteer
of the year:



Rollande Scolari

Holly James

SPECIAL AWARDS PRESENTED AT THE PICNIC:

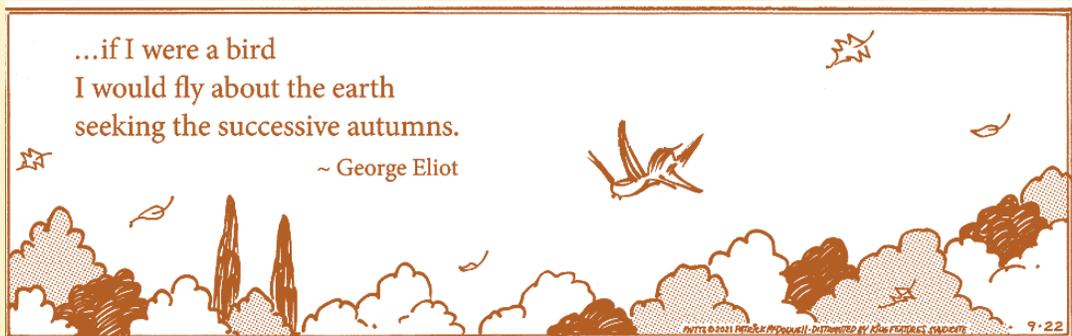
Rollande Scolari-Human Resource Generalist, received the **Employee of the Year** award, for her shining brilliance, bright enthusiasm, and fierce determination to the mission and our employees.

Holly James, Chairperson of the Board, was awarded **Volunteer of the Year** in appreciation for her magnificent talents and unyielding passion.

Congratulations to you both, and thank you for ALL you do!

...if I were a bird
I would fly about the earth
seeking the successive autumns.

~ George Eliot



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Adding your piece to the puzzle.

Have you ever been part of a group puzzle? You know the ones I mean. Those puzzles started by someone else that we pass by and add a few pieces to. We come by and add our pieces and then pass it along. Sometimes we finish it, sometimes not. Sometimes we leave it behind, never knowing if the task gets completed.



We are very much like those puzzles. We work in our divisions, All-Shred, Grounds, Commissary, Servmart, Voc Services, the Admin office, and rarely do we ever get to see the completed puzzle that is Peninsula Services. We all add our pieces and move on. You all need to see this. The puzzle would never be whole if each of us does not add our share. It takes all of us to complete what we have set out to do.

The same is to be said about Peninsula Services as a company. I was privileged enough to spend some time with our senior leadership at the National Industries for the Blind annual meeting. We spent time networking with Ability One industry leaders from across the nation. We learned about what is new and exciting in our industry along with what challenges lay ahead and how to manage them. The most important take away I have is how we (the hard-working folks of Peninsula Services) add to the greater mission of NIB and Source America. So, when your at work and get to feeling like, "it's just a job," know this: The piece you add to the puzzle is important and every day we add more. There are people whose lives and livelihood depend on us and we should be proud of what we do. I know I am.

P.S. Rocks!

Rich Mueller - Whidbey Servmart. Manager

**"My therapist told me the way to achieve true inner peace is to finish what I start. So far I've finished two bags of M&Ms and a chocolate cake. I feel better already."
Dave Barry**

FROM PSNS COMMISSARY

I wanted to share with you just a few thing from our PSNS store for the newsletter.

At the end of September, we lost 4 employees. We are sad to see them go, but at the same time happy for the new endeavors that await them. We celebrated their departure with a good luck potluck, with a wonderful spread of delicious food. With people leaving, we have hired more employees.

We want to welcome **Arnold Ecijan, Cheryl Collier and Kimberly Galeai**. We are also awaiting more new hires, as they are onboarding.

We have recently just started to receive holiday items by the bulk. The team and I are preparing for the long hours and work ahead for the holidays. I like the fact that a team playing morale is on everyone's mind as we work as a team.

We continue to strive to better our work ethics here and be safe as we do it.

I am very appreciative and thankful for the team.

Diane Tuitasi, PSNS Site Supervisor





November 1st:
National EAT your kid's
Halloween Candy
After They Go To BED DAY

Written by Alanna Lopez, Assistant Supervisor at the Bangor Commissary:

Ocean

Deep, Vast, Lively

Listening to crashing waves

Standing on a sandy beach

Smelling the salty sea

The Ocean looks like a whole different world.

The sky has clouds that look like pillows

Where I could sleep

Listening to the birds singing,

Feeling the cool air breeze

Seeing the clouds above me

Light, lovely, cloudy

Sky



PUMPKIN TRUFFLES [VEGAN]

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup pumpkin puree
- 2/3 cup chopped dates
- 6 tablespoons coconut oil, melted
- 1 teaspoon pumpkin spice
- Powdered sugar

PREPARATION

1. Combine the pumpkin, dates, coconut oil, and spices in a food processor and mix until smooth and compact or use your muscles and mix it yourself.
2. Let the dough cool in the fridge for at least 30 minutes for easier ball rolling. Form into balls then roll in the powdered sugar. Ready to eat!

NOTES Store in the fridge for up to 5 days.

HAPPY FALL From The Grounds Maintenance Team

Our Grounds Maintenance Team has been short staffed this past year but has diligently continued to meet deadlines and contract requirements throughout the spring and summer season. I commend every one of my crew for their hard work through a tough season and appreciate all of their continued efforts. Now Fall is upon us and the leaves always add to the heavy workload.

Leaves are normally good at dangerous activities.

They often go out on a limb! 😊

We celebrate **Robin Meyer** for her 26 year anniversary working at Peninsula Services! We also celebrate **Kris Kelly** and **Paulita Franklin** for their 11 year anniversaries!
Congratulations ALL!

Thank you,

Sherrie Gerrior - Grounds Project Manager





Your Parks, Trails and Beaches Just Got More Accessible!



The Kitsap County Accessible Communities Advisory Committee is excited to announce a partnership with Bainbridge Island Parks and Recreation District to provide 2 Hippocampe All-Terrain Wheelchairs to borrow **at no charge** with a small refundable damage deposit. The chairs can be transported to other areas of the county.

These lightweight, durable chairs are designed to tackle sand, grass, dirt, rocks, roots, and just about any other surface to allow wheelchair users access to places classic wheelchairs wouldn't dare to go. They don't float

but can be used to wade into the water. With specialized wheels and attachments that fit a variety of needs, the chairs are ready for adventure. They are stored un-assembled in a bag for easy transport but are quick to put together. There are two different sizes available and both support up to 285lbs.

For more information or to reserve a chair, contact Outdoor Program Manager Nick Prevo at (206) 842-5661 ext. 115 or nickp@biparks.org or visit the BI Parks Gearbank at <https://biparks.org/gearbank/>.

Funding to purchase the Hippocampe wheelchairs was secured by the Kitsap County Accessible Communities Advisory Committee through the Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment.

For more information on the Accessible Communities Advisory Committee, or if you're interested in joining the venture of making Kitsap County more accessible for all contact Hannah Shockley at the Kitsap County DSHS at 360-337-7185 ext. 3530 or hshockle@co.kitsap.wa.us.

access
inclusion
acceptance
respect
involvement
diversity
education



LEAF MADNESS

They're down,
all of them,
little curled seed wrappers,
little brown bug blankets
piling higher.
A landscape of squirrel
castles.
The neighbor's dog
plunges in and
knows ecstasy,

crisp bits and burrs
sticking to his fur.
Here is a
madness to
indulge in;
it's natural for this world
to disengage and
fall apart.
Watch the treetops
stretch with freedom.

They're on vacation,
shaking their arms
with clear amusement as
we rake and rake.





THE STORY OF A CES - A REWARDING CHALLENGE

Being a Community Employment Specialist with the Vocational Rehab department has its challenges, but, there are rewards as well!

We work very hard to assist our clients to find a job that fits their skills, meets their schedule limitations because of transportation, and provides the reasonable accommodations they require. We call this process “job development”. This often entails creating a job that doesn’t exist within the organization but provides a benefit for the employer.

To do this, we build relationships with employers all over Kitsap county. These relationships become the key to unlocking a position at their store. It takes time and effort, and a mindset that maintains focus on the long game. I’d like to share a story that demonstrates this long-range job development strategy.

Seven years ago, I was a brand-new Employment Specialist, but I was determined, passionate, and bold. I had a client that had been part of the supported workshop that Peninsula Services had just closed down. This client needed a job quickly or would lose some of his benefits. I knew he would require a customized position, working about 2 hours per day. He was in a wheelchair and had only the use of one hand, plus other barriers. In my search for a location that would accept an employee with such obstacles to employment, I stopped in the Silverdale Safeway one day. I saw this tall male employee and asked if he knew if the Store Director was in. To my surprise, he was the Store Director, **Paul Baier**. I took a chance at this first meeting to tell him about the kind of work I do, and how individuals with disabilities can help fill the gaps in service many stores experience. Paul listened intently, and so I told him the about my client. I suggested how he could do some tasks that would be a blessing to the store, the employees, the customers, and the community. I asked Paul directly if he could identify a place for my client; a job working two hours per day, two days a week. Paul immediately embraced the vision and agreed to hire my client that day! Together we created a customized position for **Isaac Crossover**. Isaac is still employed at Silverdale Safeway.

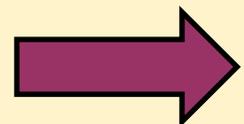


ISAAC CROWNOVER



MEME KING

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THE STORY OF A CES - A REWARDING CHALLENGE CONTINUED from page 8

But that is not the end of the story. Fast forward to 2022.

My job takes me all over Kitsap County, and I have been to many different Safeways, exploring jobs. Late this summer I was at the Callow Safeway, doing what I do, exploring the needs and the job openings for clients that I was working with. As I was in the store, I went up to two employees talking and asked about the store director. I looked up, and realized that it was Paul! He was now in charge of this store.

We did a little catch-up, and I began to tell him about two different clients that had their hopes on a Safeway job. Paul responded, let's do it!

In September **Madison Simpson** began working as the Meat Room cleaner, her first paid position.

And in October, **Markus Michaels** was hired to do special cleaning projects and help with dairy. His is a position that did not exist until Paul and I met and his continued commitment to championing the value of customized employment.

Safeway in Kitsap County has been an advocate for hiring employees with disabilities.

I want to especially thank **Paul Baier**, the manager that helped to start my career with a success story.

Isaac was the first client I placed in a community job.

Submitted by **Meme King**, Community Employment Specialist Extraordinaire



MADISON SIMPSON

THANK YOU PAUL!



MARKUS MICHAELS & PAUL BAIER



+ SAFEWAY  = JOBS!



PENINSULA SERVICES

Empowerment through Employment

PO BOX 5030 - BREMERTON, WA 98312
360-373-1446 / 360-479-6520



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OUR MISSION: TO PROVIDE JOB TRAINING AND COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES



BOARD OF DIRECTORS - NEW MEMBERS JOIN US!

A warm welcome to our new Board members! All are so very talented in different ways, and are 100% behind our mission.

They bring new perspectives and enthusiasm to the group.

It will be exciting to see. A tour of sites is being planned in the next month, and hopefully you will get a chance to meet them, and the other members as well. We have such a wonderful Board of Directors, dedicated to governing our agency now and into the future.

So, please join me in welcoming:

★ Gena Wales ★ Gary Floring ★ Natassja Haynes ★ Jessica Prevost ★

And of course, a heartfelt thank you to all of the members who have been with us through the years:

★Holly James - Chairperson

★Mary Coupland

★Tom Taylor - Vice Chairperson

★Perry Ann Porter-Brown

★Walter Draper - Treasurer

★Kristi Keller

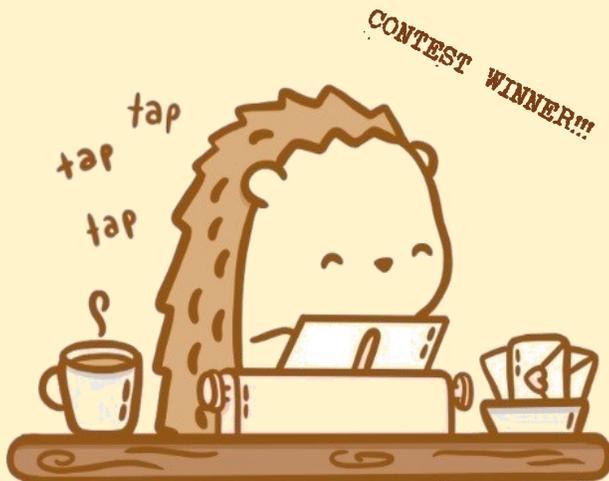
★Phyllis Merhaut - Secretary

★Ed Munoz

★Kevin Kilbridge

★Sue Kela

EMPOWERMENT THROUGH EMPLOYMENT - SERVING KITSAP SINCE 1971



A LITTLE NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

I want to thank everyone who pitched in this time with wonderful articles, poems, recipes, pictures, and more. Your contributions make this newsletter much more interesting! If you remember, last time I promised to pick one lucky contributor's name out of a hat to say Thank You.

This time it is Alanna Lopez for her poem, Ocean. You will be receiving a day off coupon from your supervisor to use before the end of the year. Thanks and Congrats!

To those who didn't win this time, please keep trying!

Happy Fall, All! Andrea Johnston