

PENINSULA PRESS

A PUBLICATION OF PENINSULA SERVICES

SUMMER 2022

From the CEO

As summer rolls into full swing, I hope all of our staff and friends of Peninsula Services are getting to enjoy some meaningful time with family and friends. I can certainly feel for our ground's crews with the speed of the grass growing in my own front yard! I've enjoyed our recent run of sunny days, and I'm hoping for more to come.



I wanted to take some time to thank each member of the Peninsula Services Team for all your hard work and commitment to our mutual success. From mowing lawns, stocking shelves, shredding confidential documents, and providing mission critical supplies to our Navy, each of us contribute to the mission of **Empowerment through Employment**. **You** make the mission happen daily as you commit your time and efforts to complete your work. It is my sincere hope that each of you feels appreciated for all that you contribute every day.

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PENINSULA SERVICES EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH!



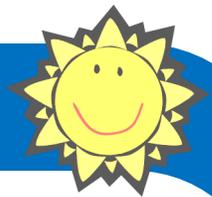
CHRIS BOCKUS

Peninsula Services would like to recognize **Chris Bockus** for being the **Employee of the Month** for July. Chris has been a Lead for Peninsula Services Ground Maintenance team for a little over a year. In that short time, he has made a very significant impact not only to his crew, but to the overall culture in

Grounds. He has implemented a high standard of service that was recognized by the Government PAR regarding his teams work around government facilities on Bangor. He has separated himself as one of the top Leads by ensuring services and deadlines are met on-time. His safety awareness and implementation of personnel PPE has reduced the Grounds Sections safety violations throughout their section.

The Grounds Maintenance leadership team, and all of us at Peninsula Services thank **Chris Bockus** for his exceptional leadership and look forward to seeing many more great things from Chris as a Lead for Grounds Maintenance team and a valued employee.

CONGRATULATIONS CHRIS!



THE BEST DARN GROUNDS TEAM IN KITSAP COUNTY!



Sherrie, our Grounds Project Manager, said she will be back next time with more from her team, not wanting to take attention off of Employee of the Month, Chris Bockus. She and the gang are so proud that he was chosen. BUT, I as editor, want to add that the ENTIRE Grounds crew is continuing the fine workmanship it has become known for throughout the base, even with the extra challenges of the HEAT and fewer seasonal workers than usual. Everyone has been pitching in with more hours and even working more days a week! Your commitment and hard work are truly appreciated! THANKS from the whole Leadership Team to the *Best Grounds Team ANYWHERE!*

FROM OUR FABULOUS PSNS COMMISSARY TEAM

We are still looking to hire on some new people to fill the void of a few team members who have left within the past month or so. We are just working hard to keep up with the new work loads, and the team has been doing fabulous. Still, few additional people would be great.

Being that it is summer, and things are heating up in our state, I have advised our team to be aware of the heat warnings. Yes we are indoors with AC, but never-the-less, we can't take any chances, because the majority of our crew walk to work.

We have been covid free for the past couple of weeks and that's a good thing, knock on wood.

Everyone is doing their best and trying to stay healthy and we are definitely looking forward to the company picnic sometime soon. Haven't heard yet, but there are rumors

V/R, Diane Tuitasi - Supervisor- Peninsula Services NBK Bremerton Commissary

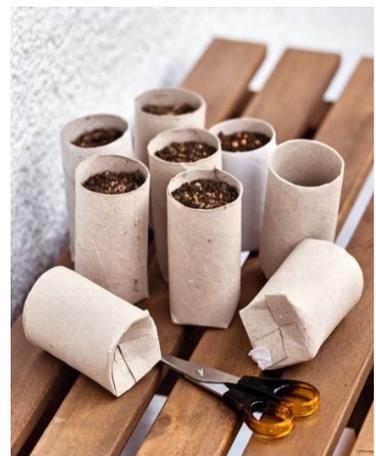
A QUICK, FUN GARDENING HACK - MAKE YOUR OWN SEED STARTS FROM TP TUBES!

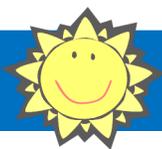
Reuse those empty toilet paper tubes this gardening season! Cut four slits at one end and fold them inward to close up the bottom. Then fill with soil and plant your seeds.

Place on a tray in a warm spot away from drafts.

Because the cardboard is biodegradable, you can put the tp pots directly into the ground when you're ready to plant!

Just make a couple of slits along the side so the roots can spread and the tp pots will disappear as the plants grow.



**CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE: FROM THE CEO**

I recently got to have breakfast with a friend who I had not seen in a long time. We are both avid coffee drinkers, and each ordered a cup as we were escorted to our seats. Sam and I had not seen each other in years, so when we sat down, the conversation started rolling. We had lots to catch up on and focused on telling each other about all the things our kids had been up to, as well as our personal stories. As we talked, Amanda would come by every few minutes and fill our coffee cups and then move along to her next table. Every time my cup would get about halfway empty, she would just magically appear to fill it. On one of her rounds, Sam stopped me in the middle of one of my stories and addressed Amanda. He thanked her for being so attentive to our needs and keeping our coffee full. He then went on to say how frequently he dines out and went on to compliment her on being one of the best servers he had ever had. She really did do a great job with us. I watched as Amanda just beam at the compliments, and I saw her countenance brighten as we said thank you to her.

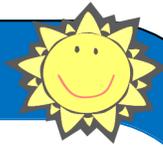
I've thought a lot about this little interaction and the power of appreciation over the past few days. It reminds me of something I recently read. The number one factor in job satisfaction is not the amount of pay we receive but whether or not we feel appreciated and valued for the work we do. A recent study by the US Department of Labor indicates that 64% of people who leave their jobs say they do so because they don't feel appreciated.

It is one of my goals that each member of the Peninsula Services Team feels appreciated for all that you do every day. What you do matters. Each of us contributes to the mission, and each of us shares in the team's success. As senior managers, we have been talking about what is called Action Identification Theory. In simple terms, this means that every action we do can be described in several different ways. For example, Amanda was filling our cups with coffee; at a deeper level, she was meeting the need for fulfilling our caffeine craving; at an even deeper level, she was creating a comfortable and warm environment for two old friends to reconnect and affirm their friendship. What Amanda did that morning was far more meaningful for us than just filling our cups with coffee. She created a space for friendship to flourish.

I want to encourage each of us to consider the deeper meaning of what we do daily. I know that the work that each of you does is complex, it seems there are no simple jobs, but each one has deep meaning. Our shared mission at Peninsula Services is ambitious and complex, and each of you contributes to the success of that mission every day. For your many contributions, I am genuinely thankful.

From Todd Faulkner, CEO and Director of Mission Services

Food For Thought: It is easier to act yourself into a new way of thinking than it is to think yourself into a new way of acting.



988: Transforming Crisis Care in America

A CALL for HELP

Beginning July 16, 2022, dialing “988” will take you to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. The 988 hotline makes mental health crisis care more available for people in need. Remember, You Are Not Alone. HELP is there.

988 Fast Facts

988 is confidential, free, and available 24/7/365, connecting those experiencing mental health distress, substance abuse issues, or a suicidal crisis with trained crisis counselors. 988 also links to the Veterans Crisis Line.

Access is available through every land line, cell phone, and voice-over internet device in the United States and call services are available in Spanish, along with interpretation services.

The 988 hotline started July 16th and is available for call, text, and chat. Plus, the previous 1-800-273-8255 number will continue to function even after the transition.

Many effective programs and services exist. Help is available. 988 services are distinct and separate from the emergency medical and public safety response associated with 911.

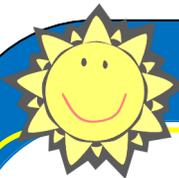
988 crisis counselors are trained to use the least invasive interventions, when possible, and often the call, text, or chat itself is the only intervention needed. In addition, ongoing coordination between 988 and 911 will help individuals in crisis get the appropriate support they need, such as the use of mobile crisis teams or social workers instead of the police or EMS responders, when needed and where available.

To prevent suicide, we need to be able to talk about it openly-without fear or shame. 988 supports safety, help-seeking, and healing in a confidential way.



I would also like to remind everyone that the **Magellan EAP** is there 24/7, offering confidential help with work, family or personal concerns. It is a free benefit for all Peninsula Services employees and dependents to help you get the most out of life.

“To anyone out there who’s hurting — it’s not a sign of weakness to ask for help. It’s a sign of strength.” — Barack Obama



We Couldn't Do It Without You!

I know you've heard it before, but we can never say it enough. Peninsula Services has a very dedicated and caring Board of Directors who are not often seen, but are involved in every facet of the agency. They are active advocates for our employees and people with disabilities in our community. We wish to express our sincere appreciation to them for contributing their time and talents.



Peninsula Services Board of Directors

- Holly James-Chairperson
- Tom Taylor-Vice Chairperson
- Walter Draper-Treasurer
- Phyllis Merhaut-Secretary
- Kevin Kilbridge
- Perry-Ann Porter-Brown
- Mary Coupland
- Ed Munoz
- Kristi Keller
- Sue Kela



And please consider joining our Board if you have the time and enthusiasm to give. Sorry, current employees or participants can't because of regulatory reasons, but maybe you know someone who would like to volunteer. Please contact Holly James at the Business Office phone number, 360-373-1446.

YOU SAY GOODBYE AND WE SAY HELLO!

Boy am I showing my age, Beatles forever!

The Whidbey Servmart recently lost a teammate. Roy was forced to leave us when things changed at home. We wish him well and will miss him. While only with us a short time he became a steadfast member of the team. The story doesn't end there however. Almost like it was destined by fate, **Jamaica** entered our lives.

Jamaica is a former logistics specialist who was recently discharged from the Navy, where she was one of our customers. Now she is ready to serve as our newest driver/storeworker. **WELCOME TO THE FAMILY!**

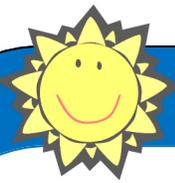
Rich Mueller, Whidbey Servmart Manager



HEY EVERYBODY! DON'T FORGET YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US UP AT WERNER RD FOR THE FIRST FRIDAY FREE LUNCH!

Our next one is August 5th between 11:30 and 1:30.

Drop by for whatever is on the grill...burgers or dogs, and chips...free for all. Bring a salad to share if you'd like. If you can't stay for long, that is OK, too. Grab a quick cup of coffee or cold soda and hang out for a few minutes. We want to get to know you better!



THE BANGOR COMMISSARY REPORTS IN

Since starting our new contract with the Commissary the first of February, our team has been busy keeping the commissary shelves filled and customers happy.

We have been taking on the challenge of stocking **twice** as much product and succeeding.

We continue to hear many compliments from customers and DECA staff. Our teams work very well together and support each other in fulfilling our contract.

I would also like to **CONGRATULATE Michelle Joiner** as my new Assistant Supervisor for the dry stocking and **Alanna Lopez** as my new Assistant Supervisor for the addition to our contract, the frozen and chill products. They are a big help and a great addition to my management team.

We have been in the process of updating our office and making it seem more like an office instead of a storage area. We have had many compliments on the new look. It is still a work in progress and in fact my new Assistant Alanna will be painting a mural on one of our walls. will share a picture in the next newsletter when it is completed.

I want to say a big THANK YOU to my team for all they do!

Robin Elkins Bangor Site Supervisor

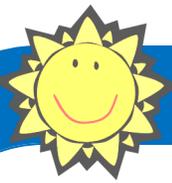


FOR YOUR GRILL - A RECIPE FROM ROLLANDE

Summer in the PNW is the best kept secret. Enjoy this wonderful sunny weather, spend time with family; enjoy great outside activities including grilling some delicious healthy food such as **Easy Spicy Brown Sugar Grill Salmon**
What you will need:

- ★ **Salmon Fillets:** You'll need 4 salmon fillets, about 1-inch thick. Each should weigh around 6 ounces.
- ★ **Olive or Coconut oil:** To help the rub stick to the fillets, and to keep the fish from sticking to the grill.
- ★ **For the rub:**
- ★ **Brown Sugar:** For sweetness, use 3 tablespoons of light brown sugar.
- ★ **Salt:** You'll need 2 tablespoons of kosher salt.
- ★ **Dried Herbs:** We use a tablespoon each of dried parsley and ground dill weed.
- ★ **Garlic Powder:** This provides an intense garlic flavor with no need for mincing!
- ★ **Black Pepper:** Freshly ground or cracked is best.
- ★ **Spices:** 1 tablespoon of paprika and a teaspoon each of coriander and cumin.
- ★ Mix the dry ingredients for the rub; Lightly coat the fillet with olive oil; sprinkle the rub on the fillet;
- ★ Grill fillet for 3-minutes on each side. YUM YUM!
- ★ **HAVE A SAFE AND WONDERFUL SUMMER!**





A NEW NEWSLETTER CONTEST !!

Want to see your words in print and maybe win a prize?

*Send me your articles, poems, recipes, announcements, inspiring quotes, (make sure they are all appropriate for work please) and then check the next issue. There may not be room for everyone, but I'll do what I can. **Plus** I will pick ONE submission at random, out of a hat, to **win a prize**. Not saying what it is, but you won't be disappointed. Sorry, Managers not included.*

So Don't Be Shy! Email me at andrea@peninsulaservices.org



PAWS FOR LOVE



This picture captures the face of a mother who saw her child, who because of his disability, she can't hug, wash, dress, snuggle or touch freely lay on his new Service dog of his own free will, at peace, with an already unspoken attachment. This is the face of a mom who has seen her son have countless failed social interactions on the playground trying to have a friend. Any friend. Any kind of connection. And now she is sitting behind her son silently watching this precious moment of acceptance, with the air sucked out of her lungs and no words to say. It's amazing how something like lying with a dog may not be a big deal to one person but is completely life changing for another! This beautiful moment truly reveals how amazing having an animal in one's life can be. Whether you have a service dog, AKC or mutt, an emotional support animal, a crazy cat, or guinea pig, may you enjoy the pure love they have to give, and return it to them by caring for them all their lives.





Thank you for reading the Summer-Time Peninsula Press



PENINSULA SERVICES

Empowerment through Employment

Just like the rest of the U.S. we are HIRING!

And don't forget about the new Referral Program! If someone you recruit is hired and sticks with us, YOU are eligible for a nice chunk of change! Ask your supervisor about it if you want to know more.

We are looking for:

Community Employment Specialist-1 with Voc Sucs

Seasonal Grounds Maintenance Workers - FT

HR Office Assistant- FT

PT Bangor Commissary - Two shifts available- PT

Call Rollande in the HR Office: 360-479-6520

Mailing Address:
PO Box 5030
Bremerton, WA 98312



Phone: 360-373-1446
Fax: 360-415-0332

Email:
info@peninsulaservices.org



Our new website is up and looks pretty cool.

Check it out at
www.peninsulaservices.org

Our Mission is to provide job training and community employment opportunities to adults with disabilities.

REACH FOR THE STARS



Our Core Values

- ★ All persons have the ability to grow and to excel.
- ★ All persons are deserving of dignity and respect.
- ★ The pursuit of excellence in all services provided is of utmost importance.
- ★ People are the greatest asset in achieving the mission of Peninsula Services.
- ★ Innovations, creativity and the desire to excel is greatly valued.



Laughter is good exercise. It's like jogging for your insides.