



PEAS-Talks!

People Engaged in Acts of Service
Outreach Newsletter

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North Cascade Seventh Day Adventist Church

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800 Peacock Lane, Burlington, WA 98233, 360-757-7577

Outreach Committee

Ira Bartolome
Carl Crawford
DJ Crawford
Dean Dietrich
Sheryle Haberly
Cindy Hartley
Joan Hilde
Shellie Leek
Wes Paul
Jeremy Schmidt
Dick Tolf
Pam Wallenfelsz
Jenny Welch
Kristie Lindell, editor

The PEAS

There were once three peas who lived in a pod. They looked at each other and at the walls of their pod and decided that the whole world was green. Summer slipped away, fall came, and the pod split wide open. To their dismay, the peas discovered that not only was the whole world not green, but that most of it was varying shades of brown. There were even some other shades of green. In panic, one pea took hold of the edges of the pod and tried to pull them back together again so that its world could be all green again. A second pea slipped out of the pod and became just a brown as it could as fast as it could so that no one would notice. The third pea looked at the walls of the pod and at the world outside and decided that ***its particular shade of green was precisely what the world out there needed.***

*Remnant in Crisis, by Jack Provonsha, 1993, Review & Herald, p. 169

Focus On

The Family Development Center

By Cindy Hartley

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give" ~ Winston Churchill.

Our church family has proven that once we know where the needs are, we're quick to jump on every opportunity to GIVE. And we ARE making a difference in the lives of all the families that pass through the Family Development Center (previously called the Family Shelter) in Mt Vernon. They continue to express their appreciation over and over again for our continued involvement and support.

Here are a few of their stories:
One of the moms staying at the Family Development Center recently shared how she had just gotten her 15 year old daughter's report card in the mail and was shocked to see all As and one B. Asked if the daughter had

always gotten such good grades the mom responded with a resounding "NEVER". The mom was confident that the stability and peace that her apartment at the Shelter provided were paramount to her daughter's new-found success.

Another mom at the Family Development Center just passed her GED and is now starting a job training program.

Ten families recently moved through the system into the

transitional housing program where they will receive housing assistance for 3 months while they get back on their feet and move back into normal living arrangements.

The needs continue to be greater than ever and Skagit County Community Action Agency has expressed their appreciation for all the support our church continues to offer. The Family Development Center currently needs a SMALL paper shredder so they can dispose of



The Family Development Center

personal documents.
And they have ongoing needs for cleaning supplies of all types—mops, brooms, Windex, bleach, Comet, ammonia, liquid dish

soap, garbage bags, TP, paper towels, powdered laundry soap, toiletries etc. They also appreciate coupons for McDonalds, pizza, Fred Meyer,

movie passes, bus passes etc. You can bring these items to the church and I'll be happy to deliver them for you. We ARE making a difference!

Contact Cindy Hartley at 595-2947 if you are interested in this program, and thank you so much for your support.

More Outreach Opportunities...

Oil Changes for Single Moms

When: April 19
Contact: Jeremy Schmidt, 855-7614
Church members performed six oil changes and purchased one new battery to help single mom families. That is double the amount from last year. It was a great turnout, and all adults and kids had a fun, sunny day!

Teddy Bear Packs

When: ongoing
Contact: Lillian Stutz, 757-2616
All Skagit County Sheriff and WA State Patrol units have been provided with packets containing a teddy and an afghan.

Blood Drive

When: TODAY!, 8:00-2:00
Where: NCSDA church
Contact: Vicki Jacobs, 707-2506
Check out the van out in the parking lot! They may still have a time available for you to give blood today.

All Spruced Up Thrift Shop

When: Ongoing
Contact: Pat Bartelmey, 755-1141
Thrift shop hours are 10-4 M-TH, and 11-3 on Fridays. **We are still selling vegetarian food.** Come by and peruse our 1/2 off linen sale. And look for our article featured in the *Gleaner* this month!

Teen Oasis Shelter

When: Ongoing
Contact: Joan Hilde, 856-6013
The Teen Oasis Shelter serves boys and girls ages 13-16. The house is close to the YMCA in Mount Vernon, and has just been remodeled and reopened. They need clothing appropriate for job interviews in all sizes. There is a need for activities to keep the kids busy. Anyone with a special skill could come teach a class, cooking or finance, etc. They also would welcome homemade cookies or treats anytime.

County Fair

When: August 12-15
Contact: Dean Dietrich, 856-0828
Our church has reserved a kiosk for the Skagit County Fair. We will have space to display church brochures, show SAS movies, and most importantly, talk to community members. If you have any pictures of the school or church to share, please forward them to Dean.

Cold Weather Shelter

When: Nights below 25degrees
Contact: Tressa Farnsworth, 424-9146
All supplies have been inventoried and stored in the Youth House. We will decide what to do with the program at the year-end debriefing meeting.

Friendship House Dinner

When: 1st Wed/month at 3:00-6:00
1008 S 3rd St, Mt. Vernon
Contact: Lydia Apt, 826-4374
Each month, one NCSDA Sabbath school or group of members sponsors a dinner. In May the Youth Group asked the folks at Friendship House what they would most like to eat, and then brought them pizza from The Pizza Factory. Please contact Lydia and sign your group up to serve a meal.

Food Baskets

When: ongoing
Contact: Lanita Penninger 428-8923 or Carol Atkins 757-0967.
We are handing out 2-3 baskets per month, and are streamlining the assembly process.



Pastor Ira, Shari Whealy, the Wallenfelsz', and Dick Tolf are still smiling after a Big Day!

Big Day

When: May 3
We participated in two community projects: 1. Painted a fence and house trim for Shari Whealy. 2. We teamed up with other churches to sort a barn full of reclaimed building materials. Skagit Interfaith Disaster Recovery Organization (SIDRO) uses the materials to help people who are having trouble recovering from natural disasters. SIDRO takes over when Red Cross and FEMA help leaves off.

World Vision

Our Outreach Committee has joined the *World Vision* network, a worldwide organization that provides corporate donations of foodstuffs, furniture, and anything that might be useful for free to members. Dick Tolf and Pastor Tim collected 3 desks and many other supplies, and we have already shared some of them with the Friendship House and Family Development Center. Wes Paul built shelves to stock the supplies where we can access them to give to needy community members.

Baby Packs

When: ongoing
Contact: Lillian Stutz, 757-2616
New mothers in need are provided with a basket of helpful items for a brand new baby.

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