# PSO BLUEBILL FLYER October 2025



## PSO Bluebill Newsletter Serving Jefferson and Kitsap Counties



#### Chairman Bob Keever

October 2025

Note From the Chair

By Bob Keever

When You Need Something Done



Co-Chair Bruce Weber

Our Bluebills mission statement includes the call for us to improve the lives of people in Kitsap and Jefferson counties by providing handyman, fall prevention and aging in place services and supporting homeless and domestic abuse advocacy services. Although we prefer to help low-income clients, we don't exclude anyone from our programs. We often hear from clients who say that they can easily find a contractor willing to do a whole bathroom remodel for \$50,000, but that no one is willing to come out and install a \$25 grab bar.

Our Builders are often asked the question, "why are you doing this?" Our standard answer is that it keeps us out of the bars. David Negrones, his age approaching 90, still sports his toolbelt and participates in construction projects. "So far, my health's holding up. I got a rocking chair, but I don't live in it. The Lord's been helpful to me, he's given me my health. I got to give back somehow. So, it's a way. And I like that way. I enjoy building, I enjoy fixing – especially when people appreciate it."

We sometimes refer to ourselves as the elderly and disabled helping the elderly and disabled. I recall a ramp job where one of the volunteers had cerebral palsy, and his left side didn't work. Another volunteer was a stroke victim and his right side didn't work, so we paired them up, and together they were able to help get the job done.

Not everyone is interested, or able to do construction work, but many of the handyman jobs are light duty, including things like changing light bulbs, and performing minor household tasks. Behind the scenes there is a lot of planning, client contacting, office work and coordinating involved. Please help out if you can.

Cheers! Bob Keever



## Peninsula Support Organization (PSO) Bluebills

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To read past editions of the FLYER, click here.

Donations to the PSO Bluebills can be sent to:

Peninsula Support Organization/Bluebills

PO BOX 65098

PORT LUDLOW, WA 98365

Or Online:





For a Copy of the Bylaws of the PSO Click Here.

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# EMAIL SCAM ALERT!

There is an email going around that claims to be from our Chairman Bob Keever, requesting assistance in providing gift cards.

#### The text reads:

How are you? I hope you're doing well.

Are you available to kindly assist? We (PSO) need some gift cards for the community's veterans in palliative care units.

Would you please handle this donation request for the organization on my behalf?

I am temporarily out of town and unable to handle this directly, but I have confidence in your ability to help.

Your assistance would be much appreciated. I will be responsible for reimbursement of the expenses.

I'd appreciate your feedback. Thank you.

Cheers,

**Bob Keever** 

**PSO Bluebills Chairman** 

Do not respond to this email.

Bob Didn't send it.

It is a scam!

## Bluebills Support Healthy Snacks for Chimacum Primary

The PSO Bluebills have provided a contribution of \$950 to the Healthy Snacks Program. The sum represents \$450 that was collected in response to the request in last 2 months' newsletters, plus additional \$500 from the our STEM Fund.

We are still collecting funds for this program so it's not too late to help!

Send the PSO Bluebills a check and enter "Healthy Snacks" on the memo line. Send the check to:

**PSO Bluebills** 

PO Box 65098

Port Ludlow, WA 98365



### Calander For October

Oct 31 Halloween

		Octo	ober 2	2025		
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	<i>15</i>	16	<i>17</i>	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



### Please Remember OlyCap!





I help collect for OlyCap and we usually have a good variety for the families to start a new life in an apartment. We do, however need bathroom towels and single and twin sheet sets. We can always use cleaning supplies and organizational items.

If you are doing a deep clean or moving, contact me at: <a href="mailto:laura.paul@psobluebills.net">laura.paul@psobluebills.net</a> with OlyCap in the subject area. Thank you for helping.

Laura Paul, 360-344-2494.

Thank



You!

# Dove House is in need of donations of feminine hygiene products.

Please drop off unopened packages of pads and tampons at the front desks of the Bay Club or the Beach Club. Travel sized toiletries are also welcome.

OR

If you choose, Dove House has a Wishlist published on Amazon. You can have the products sent directly to them. Click on this link, <u>Amazon Wishlist</u> and send the items to this address:

**Dove House** 

1045 10th St., Port Townsend, WA 98368

#### Thank you for your support!





#### Kitsap Builders

#### **Extensive Repairs Make Mobile Livable in Gorst**

During the site visit to the elderly live-alone client's mobile home, we found holes in the subfloor, a bathroom that was torn down to the studs, holes in the skirting and siding, and no stairs on the back exit. Extensive repairs were performed, and the client was thrilled with the results.





Exterior before and after





Bathroom before and after

Client comments:
I feel like I won the lottery <sup>©</sup> I'm totally blessed I love ♥ everything and so very happy and grateful <sup>©</sup> I would like to get something for your Crew <sup>©</sup> Wow I was impressed by everyone <sup>©</sup> I absolutely love my new bathroom ♥

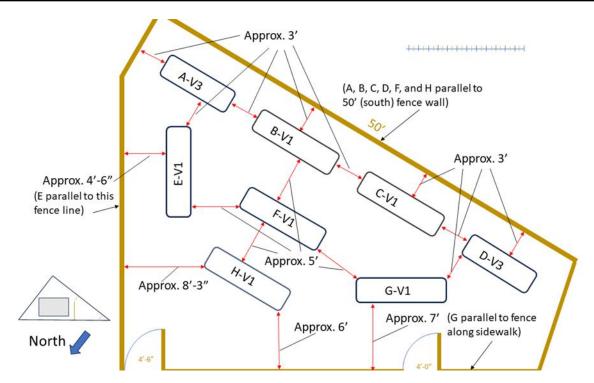
#### Kitsap Builders

#### Nordic Cottages Planter Boxes



On September 3, a crew of Bluebills Volunteers assembled, placed, and filled 8 Planter Boxes for the City of Poulsbo, Nordic Cottages housing project. The Nordic Cottages will provide 8 deeply affordable homes for older adults and adults with disabilities.

There are two different sized planter boxes in the system, and we selected an irregular but symmetrical layout for greater interest from multiple view positions. Half of the Planter boxes are 9.5' long and 2.5' wide, and the other half are 8' long and 2.5' wide. The layout provides plenty of space around each planter for unrestricted access and use. The planters are "bedded" in the gravel surface for more finished look. Half of the planters are filled with a high organic content soil, and half have a sandier mixture.



This drawing shows a schematic layout of the planters, their size, and a working label. The planters with the "V1" label are the larger 9.5' long boxes and the "V3" labeled boxes are the shorter 8' boxers. We refer to each box by a unique label "A" – "H"





Bluebills Volunteers brought lots of ideas and energy to make fast work of a large effort. The left image show wheelbarrows waiting to get dumped into planters that are getting assembled in the background; the right image shows Mayor, Becky Erickson (approximately center, white blouse), and the City Planner, Charles Roberts (Left side, yellow & white shirt), who stopped by to meet the Bluebills Crew and to offer their support and encouragement.

"This project represents the best of what happens when the community comes together," said Poulsbo Mayor Becky Erickson. "These Cottages are more than housing—they are hope, stability, and community for people with deep roots in Poulsbo.

#### **Jefferson Builders**

#### A Small Step at a Time

The client had difficulty with the standard 7 inch step height of the existing stairs up to her porch. The house and landscape did not allow for a ramp, so we settled on a stair with a reduced step height. A set of stringers with 4 inch step height were made with the help of Glen Bell and Dave Parrish, and the rest is history. The client seemed pleased and gave us a nice donation.



Before



Glen Bell and Richard Myers



Six steps turn into nine smaller steps.



Richard (in one of his other hats) and Dave Parrish.

#### Ramping Up in Port Townsend

#### By Richard Myers

This was one of the largest ramps (at least in recent history) for the Jefferson Builders. The client had significant health problems, had fallen numerous times and had difficulty negotiating the front steps. Both home entrances were 6 feet above ground level, but the ramp could only be built off of the recently stabilized rear deck. The final structure was 57 feet long with six ramp sections and two landings. Fortunately, the weather was good though out.



Before.



On the first day the team cut back vegetation, drilled all 18 post holes, built many of the ramp support frames and began assembling the structure. Jim Mueller, David Parrish, Max Frederick, and project leader Richard Myers with Joh Fillers up top. Photo by Glen Bell. Note- The Danger High Voltage sign is for an electric fence designed to discourage trash pandas (raccoons).



On the second day the merry band (minus Max) almost, but not quite, finished the project. It was a very long day and a few beers were had at the end of it. John, Jim, and Dave.



On day three Jim, Glen and Richard spent a few hours adding the cross supports, spindles and a few other final tweaks, and then adjourned for their well earned naps.



#### **HAVE YOU REPORTED YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS?**

Please remember to send in 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!

Boeing used to give us some funding, and the allocation was tied in to the volunteer hours. Currently we use the data when making presentations, asking for grant money, and also as an internal metric to self-gauge how we're doing.

Please email your hours to Judy McCay:

judy.mccay@psobluebills.net

Volunteer hours for August, 2025

For August, 31 members reported 1100 hours for 14% membership reporting.

#### **BOARD OFFICERS**

CHAIR ~ Bob Keever bob.keever@psobluebills.net

VICE-CHAIR ~ Bruce Weber <u>bruce.weber@psobluebills.net</u>

SECRETARY~ Michael Crovitz michael.crovitz@psobluebills.net

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BOARD MEMBER ~ Jim Mueller jim.mueller@psobluebills.net

BOARD MEMBER ~ Calvin Williams calvin.williams@psobluebills.net

#### **PROGRAM CHAIRS**

#### **Builders / Fall Prevention**

Jefferson Co. Calvin Williams <u>calvin.williams@psobluebills.net</u>

Kitsap Co. Bob Keever <u>bob.keever@psobluebills.net</u>

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**Dove House Tournament** 

Barbara Burke <u>mike.burke@psobluebills.net</u>

Carole Fett <u>c.fett@psobluebills.net</u>

Jefferson Co. Homeless / Oly Cap / Dove House Support

Laura Paul <u>laura.paul@psobluebills.net</u>

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