



The Heritage

Heritage Chapter Bluebills
Boeing Retiree Volunteer Newsletter

August 2022

WWW.BLUEBILLS.ORG

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Chairman's Comments- August 2022

By Richard Vaughn



“AND THE CEILING CAME DOWN”

Well, things happen. The Heritage sewing group, Busy B's, are getting a vacation for a while since the Bluebills Conference Room in the 15-35 Bldg. at South Park, where they meet to sew those beautiful quilts and other items each week, was subject to a flood last week. A pipe in the ceiling broke and drowned the room. It will take a little time to make the repairs as Boeing had to order a part for the repair. We are happy to say that we were able to salvage almost everything Bluebills had posted on the walls except some photos of quilts that Busy B's had made and donated over the years. The fate of the iron and ironing board is unknown at this time.

Enough of the bad news! I hope you have the 26th of August marked on your calendars and plan to attend the annual chapter pot luck/picnic that day. It will be held at the VFW in Renton where we hold our monthly meetings. We have been having a good attendance for the last couple of meetings and I hope more of our membership will join us for this end of summer social. (*See Flyer on Page 8 for details*)

Do you remember several years ago we enjoyed a hobbies/crafts sharing at one of our meetings? If you have been filling your time working on your hobby or crafting a favorite item for fun or for profit and would care to show it please plan to bring your items for viewing and or selling. There will be other activities that will be identified in the picnic flyer that is included in this newsletter.

With this hot weather take care and stay hydrated and out of that hot sun. We are looking forward to seeing you on August 26th for the potluck/picnic.

July Meeting Summary



By Mary Ulibarri

Richard opened the meeting at 10:30 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance. The only July birthday member in attendance was yours truly. J Others on my list are Jean Syder, Jerome Durbin, Ted Leyden, Robert Osrowske, Lana Mitsules, Elfrieda Noble and Stu Vessey. There were no July anniversaries to celebrate.

Richard reported there had been a major pipe leak in the Busy Bs conference room. The water that ran down one wall damaged some photos hung there, but no quilting equipment was affected. Boeing Maintenance was informed and immediately turned the water off, but it will take some time to get the necessary parts for the repair.

Richard also reminded folks that the August 26 meeting will be a potluck as well as a crafts exhibit. Attendees are encouraged to bring their artwork/hobbies to display and sell if so inclined. Bragging rights are definitely allowed.

Reminder: The Busy Bs are raffling a quilt with the drawing to be held at the August meeting. Tickets will still be available at that meeting. The winner will have their choice of one of the three quilts that were displayed today.

Reminder: please submit volunteer time to Mary at marybarri20@gmail.com or Dick Beham at bbeditor@live.com.

Jim Beasley then introduced the speaker from The Seattle Times newspaper. Brier Dudley has been with the paper since 1998 and was appointed Free Press Editor on January 22, 2021.



As Free Press editor, Dudley covers the current local and national crisis in journalism, along with the efforts to preserve the independence and sustainability of the nation's local free press system.

He focuses his coverage on four key areas:

- The consolidation of and disinvestment in local newspapers under absentee owners.
- The negative impacts of Big Tech on newspapers' ability to monetize their content or compete for advertising against their monopolistic practices.
- Legislative efforts to stem the losses of local newspaper and media journalism jobs.
- The emergence of "ghost newspapers" with their devastating impact on the health and vibrancy of our local communities.

Dudley serves as one of the primary voices for The Seattle Times Save the Free Press initiative. The initiative was launched in late 2019 with the goal of reforming and reinvigorating the national free press system. This program will rejuvenate the civic value of local news organiza-

tions as the trusted and reliable guardians of democracy and public accountability. Dudley has been with The Seattle Times since 1998 and was a member of the editorial board for the last five years.. A third-generation Seattleite, Dudley received a B.A. in English from Whitman College and studied film production in Italy before starting a career in newspapers. He has won numerous regional and national journalism awards.

The Seattle Times Publisher Frank Blethen stated, “Our Save the Free Press initiative is unique in American journalism today. It is both a business story and a free press story, and a story about the future of our self-government. Brier will report on how disinvestment and avarice has caused the loss of thousands of newspaper jobs in the last decade, putting our democracy at risk. And more importantly, he will write about the ideas, initiatives and emerging leaders necessary to save and rejuvenate our local free press and in turn, rejuvenate our democracy.”

To expand on Dudley’s mission to preserve the independence and sustainability of the nation’s local free press system, he referred the attendees to his Sunday (7/31/22) article in the Seattle Times quoted as follows.*

Chances are now slim that Congress will provide tax credits to help save local journalism, since they aren’t in the Senate’s latest budget package.

Fortunately, the other big hope for press advocates, an antitrust bill to level the playing field with tech giants, remains on track, according to its lead House sponsor.

U.S. Rep. David Cicilline said there’s strong bipartisan support to pass the Journalism Competition and Preservation Act, despite furious opposition from Google and Facebook.

The Rhode Island Democrat and House antitrust subcommittee chair hoped to advance JCPA (Journalism Competition & Preservation Act) this month. But it was delayed by bills on assault weapons, marriage equality and contraception. The JCPA would provide a temporary antitrust exemption allowing news outlets to collectively negotiate fair compensation for their content. This approach is working in Australia, where all but a few outlets are now getting compensated.

Cicilline said JCPA won’t solve the journalism crisis by itself, but it’s a critical step. “We really have to figure out how we ensure the sustainability of journalism in the long run in this country, local journalism in particular,” he said. “But before we figure that out, which is a longer-term project, we have to do something to stop the bleeding. The JCPA provides a stopgap measure, to make sure we’re doing everything we can to preserve local journalism.”

Cicilline was previously a state legislator and Providence mayor, experiences that don’t often produce press champions. But he grew up seeing the local newspaper serve its community and hold officials accountable, including a corrupt mayor. That mayor would probably have remained in office until he died “if it were not for The Providence Journal uncovering and revealing the corruption,” he said.

“There are examples all across the country where local journalism was the reason people were held accountable for their conduct and exposed corruption at the local and state level,” he said.

Here are edited excerpts of our conversation:

Q: How is the JCPA progressing?

A: We’re in a good place. We made revisions that make it a better bill, language to specifically exclude some of the largest publishers and broadcasters, which really don’t have the same problems. We’ve broadened it to local broadcasters who face many of the same challenges. My hope was to mark it up before the August recess, but it looks like we’ll have to do it when we get back.

Q: It’s stronger?

A: We learned a lot from the Australian experience and made improvements to ensure the process for enforcing it is workable and also that the money goes to the newsroom and not shareholders.

Q: Does it include baseball style arbitration? That seems necessary to get platforms to actually make deals.

A: Yes, final offer arbitration is, I think, critical, for this, especially for publishers.

Q: Have you seen the decline of local journalism and its effects?

A: Oh, a dramatic decline. You see now that coverage of local events is dwindling, these local newspapers are going out of business, they’re consolidating, there are news deserts being created. Then the void is filled with stuff that is much less reliable online, and people don’t have access to trustworthy, reliable news. It impacts the health of our democracy in fundamental ways. If you look at the number of newspapers we lose every year, it’s staggering. This is urgent.

Q: The market is tough.

A: As you know, Google and Facebook control three quarters of all online ad revenues, at least three out of four Americans get their news from platforms controlled by Facebook and Google, so this is an enormous amount of power over what people see. They wield that power in a way that is really unfair to local broadcasters and journalists who produce the co

Q: What are impediments to getting JCPA done?

A: The impediment is the power of the large technology platforms. They desperately want to maintain the current ecosystem that allows them to essentially steal the content and abuse and bully the producers of that content, because they can.

They want to block all of the antitrust reforms because they very much want to maintain the ecosystem that has generated them profits never seen in the history of the world. And with tremendous economic power comes political power — that’s one of the real dangers of monopolies. These are the oil barons and railroad tycoons of our

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time. They're trying to preserve the unfair practices that they engage in and that generate them huge profits, and they don't want a competitive or fair system, or a system that requires them to negotiate in good faith with the producers of that content. That's what we're going to fix.

Q: Will JCPA support hold through midterms?

A: I hope so. That's why I'm anxious to get it done this Congress because we've had such strong bipartisan support. People working on this understand the danger of the monopoly power of these platforms, and I don't think that will change even in the context of a campaign.

Q: Congress and the White House are working to make the U.S. and democracy more resilient. I see that in the (computer) chip bill and democracy summits. Saving journalism fits with that, although I don't hear that conversation much.

A: Absolutely. There's no question about it. We can't be strong internationally and be an example to the world in terms of democracy and human rights and a free press and an independent judiciary without having a robust and diverse local news media. I think there's a deep understanding that this is critical to our democracy, and I'm confident that when we finally get it to the floor it will have overwhelming and very strong bipartisan support.

Q: How can people help?

A: They should write their senators and representatives telling them to support the bill.

*Copied directly from The Seattle Times online website, due to my neglect to replace the dead batteries in my recording machine.

Dudley then opened the floor to questions from the audience.

Jim then presented a Boeing centennial book to Brier and the meeting was closed with the door prize drawing.

Busy B's

By Janice Hawes



The Busy B's are 26 years old!



In 1995 the Bluebill were born and in 1996 Bambi and Jim Lee joined them. I'm not sure how Bambi started the sewing group but I know she became known as the doll lady who collected and refurbished dolls to be given away. From there the quilting began and the Busy B's were born. In the beginning there was just one sewing machine and a group of talented ladies and lots of donated fabric.

The group started out making quilts for homeless veterans and these were given to the Veteran's Hospital in Seattle. This went on for a few years, then through Bambi's guidance, expanded to

(Continued on page 6)

giving small quilts to the Auburn Child Haven, always keeping the original concept of quilts for veterans. Another group that received our quilts was Habitat for Humanity. When a home was completed and a family moved in, we presented them with a quilt.

At the end of 2012 Bambi, after 15 years of heading the Busy B's, asked me to take over the chairmanship of the group. In January of 2013 I did so.

Along the way, we acquired more sewing machine, some donated, some purchased by the Bluebills. so each Busy B has a machine and always plenty of fabric available.

We expanded our work to include quilts for Seattle Children's Hospital along with medical dolls which were small plain dolls wearing hospital gowns. The medical staff would draw on the doll where a procedure would be done. The child could then draw a face and hair on it and take it home.

Pediatric Interim Clinic (PIC) in Kent is another recipient of our work, mostly crocheted baby hats and sometimes small quilts. Meri England and Kathy Lyons made many of these. For years Estelle Mead made many sets of scarves and mittens and afghans for us to give at Christmas.

We give quilts to Compass House in Renton, a place that provides a home for homeless vets and their families.

The Washington State soldiers home in Orting is another place our quilts go to. Richard Vaughn kindly delivers them.

Up until Covid entered our lives, we collected stuffed animals (Becky Prenovost was a great provider of these) which were given to 5 area food banks at Christmas. Along with the "stuffedies" I made clothes for donated Barbie dolls (Don Hill was a constant provider of these) and these were included with the stuffed animals and any toys we had collected.

Our numbers have diminished and we have only 4 active members. One of our group, Lisa Nyreen, works at home and produces large amounts of beautiful quilts. So, Sibyl Fletcher, Melinda Stubbs and I come in on Thursday mornings and continue on with quilt making.

Hello All!

From: Heinz & Lonnie Gehlhaar

Judson Park activities keep us voluntarily involved:

Heinz is Judson Park Resident Council treasurer, Team G leader, and whatever tasks he can be recruited for.

Lonnie is Judson Park Foundation recorder and active in promoting and supporting fund raiser activities for our J P Foundation Benevolence Fund.

Main reason for no-show on Friday meetings: Judson Park town Hall is always 4th Friday of the month. . . . which becomes a conflict.

In July we had a “Christmas in July Ice-cream social” event to benefit out J P Foundation Benevolence Fund.



Left to right 4th Lonnie 5th Heinz

Lonnie and Heinz selling raffle tickets for “Dinner in December”



The world around us is amazing!

Submitted by Heinz Gehlhaar

Here is the article which got me started on this:

Weird ocean holes are an unsolved mystery

Scientists with NOAA Ocean Exploration's [Voyage to the Ridge 2022](#) expedition spotted weird lines of holes in the ocean floor on July 23. They noticed them while studying an undersea volcano along the [Mid-Atlantic Ridge](#), north of the Azores. The holes are about 2,540 meters (1.6 miles) below the sea surface. They form nearly straight lines and look organized.



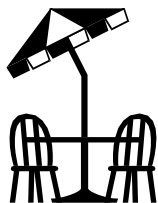
The Fagradalsfjall eruption event in Iceland began in March 2021 and concluded 6 months later.

Credit: Birgir V. Óskarsson

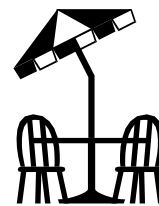
I ran across this science story in my Earth-Sky News subscription.

All the links seem to work in my email to you. If you have a little time, you ought to look at all of them; or even more.

I learned that the Mid-Atlantic Ridge is connected to the 2021 Iceland volcanoes near the Capital Reykjavík:



Bluebills—Heritage Indoor Picnic



Date: August 26, 2022

Immediately following the chapter monthly meeting at the VFW, Post 1263, 416 Burnett Avenue South, Renton, WA.

Please bring your favorite potluck dish to share with others. Suggested categories are: hot dishes (electricity is available to keep them warm), salads, fresh fruits & veggies, side dishes, & desserts, to share with others.

Table service and coffee, tea and water will be furnished.

Activities

Arts & Crafts Displays

Quilt Raffle

We hope you will join us for this once a year social event. We are expecting this to be a wonderful day that will give us an opportunity to visit with fellow Bluebills and have a great time.



We look forward to seeing you!

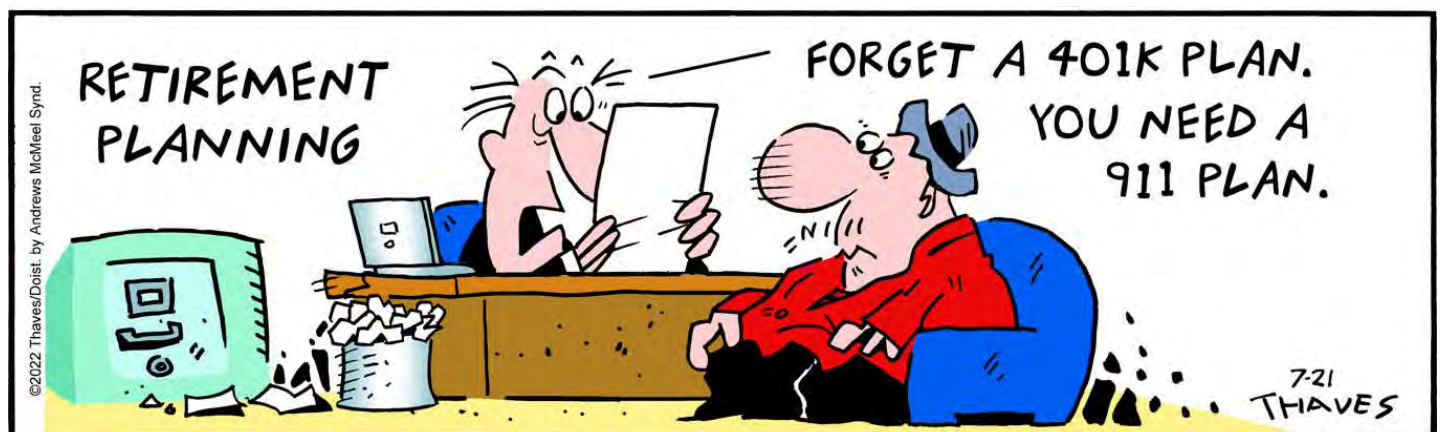
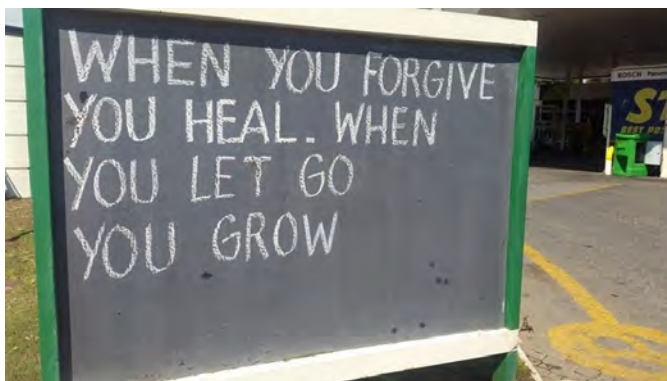
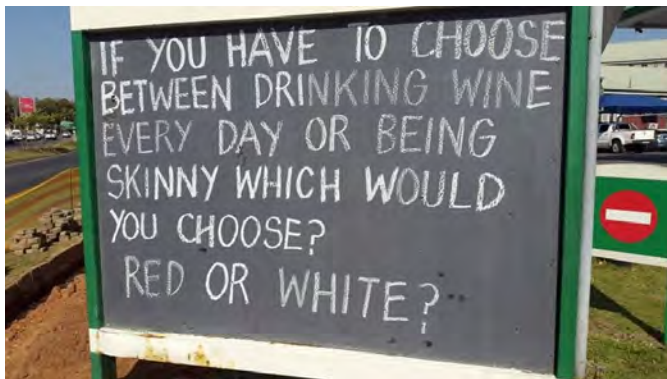
Bits & Pieces

Gas Pump Wisdom

Submitted by Micki Brown

Can you imagine wanting to make sure you drove by a certain gas station every day just to see the message on the chalk board? It's true -- a gas station has become quite a landmark in Gauteng, South Africa because of its daily uplifting quotes written on a chalkboard. Some people say they deliberately travel this route just to read the quote to brighten their day.

[The lady behind this wonderful initiative at Hutton Hyde Park is Alison Billett. She told SA People: "We inherited the board from the previous owner, Dick Hutton, when we bought the filling station from him almost 20 years ago. "We continued the tradition and it has become a landmark – more so now that it's on social media!"



Calendar of Events 2022

In Person Meetings

<i>Jan 28</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Feb 25</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Mar 25</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Apr 29</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>May 27</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Jun 24</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Jul 29</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Aug 26</i>	<i>Chapter In-Door Picnic</i>
<i>Sept 30</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Oct 28</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Nov 18</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Dec 16</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>

Food Bank Schedule For 2022

Cash donations collected at each monthly meeting to be given to a different food bank each month.

<i>January</i>	<i>Highline</i>	<i>Heinz Gehlhaar</i>
<i>February</i>	<i>Bellevue</i>	<i>Doug Hoople</i>
<i>March</i>	<i>Federal Way</i>	<i>Lonnie Stevenson</i>
<i>April</i>	<i>Maple Valley</i>	<i>Vaughn's</i>
<i>May</i>	<i>Kent</i>	<i>Melinda Stubbs</i>
<i>June</i>	<i>Auburn</i>	<i>Martha Battles</i>
<i>July</i>	<i>West Seattle</i>	<i>Heinz Gehlhaar</i>
<i>August</i>	<i>Tacoma</i>	<i>(open)</i>
<i>September</i>	<i>Renton</i>	<i>Eleanor Skinner</i>
<i>October</i>	<i>White Center</i>	<i>Heinz Gehlhaar</i>
<i>November</i>	<i>Des Moines</i>	<i>Lonnie Stevenson</i>
<i>December</i>	<i>Issaquah</i>	<i>Eleanor Skinner</i>

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**Don't Forget to
Report Your Hours!**

Bluebills Heritage Chapter Meeting

August 26, 2022 10:00AM

“Indoor Pot Luck Picnic”, VFW Post 1263

Set-Up 10:00 AM

Meeting 10:30AM, Picnic Lunch 11:00AM

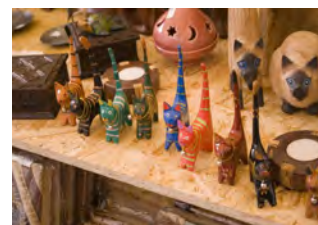


Activities

Arts & Crafts Display

Quilt Raffle

(See Newsletter Page 8 for details)



Bring a non-perishable food item to monthly meetings to be given to a different food bank each month.

The Bluebills monthly meetings are held at the VFW Post 1263, 416 Burnett Ave South, Renton, WA. Parking is available in the lot immediately across the street from the VFW.

Bluebills Monthly Volunteer Hours

Volunteer Name _____

Phone Number _____

Hours worked _____

(month/year)

For _____

(agency name)

Hours worked _____

(month/year)

For _____

(agency name)

Hours worked _____

(month/year)

For _____

(agency name)

Please send completed hours form to Bluebills, PO Box 3707 1K-B02, Seattle, WA 98124
Email to bluebills@boeing.com or bring to Bluebills monthly meeting