

Volume 11, Issue 11 November, 2018

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2018 STATISTICS

Oct. 1 — Oct. 31

District Average Response Time:

8 min. 57 sec.

Responses by Type:

Fire: 14 EMS: 206

Other: 120

Total: 340

Overlapping: 99

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Proudly serving the communities of Blaine,
Birch Bay, Custer, Laurel and the unincorporated areas of Lynden & Bellingham

"Providing Quality Service for a Safe Community"

Member Profile



by Aaron Ebner
After living all over the United States growing up, my family ultimately landed in Bonney Lake, WA. My siblings and parents are still nearby with the youngest of my siblings working toward becoming a chiropractor in Portland. I also am lucky to be uncle to two breakneck youngsters.

Being in the Northwest quickly grew into a love for the mountains and outdoors, this brought me up to Bellingham and ultimately into eastern Whatcom county, where my wife Zoe and I now live in Maple Falls.

I came to this area to pursue a life of passion, and that is exactly what I have done. Once I began working at Mt. Baker Ski Area, during a "short" sabbatical from school, I was ushered into becoming an EMT and working as a Professional Ski Patrol, where I have worked for the past eight years. After gaining some

experience and purchasing a home in Glacier, I joined District 19, Glacier Fire and Rescue, another phenomenal group of driven and talented individuals. Being part of the tight-knit family and having the opportunity to challenge myself in new and exciting ways doing EMS and rescue work led me to pursue a career in the fire service.



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Perfection



by Jason Hurley

Vince Lombardi says "perfect practice, makes perfect". As much as I love Vince, it's almost hypocritical to call what he did, perfection. Lombardi failed to win 41 games during his career, great but not perfect. Perfection is a pipe dream, a misquote from ages ago. Perfection is a hoax, and

the pressure of those expecting perfection, destroys the motivation of those seeking it.

But we have those, who think they are perfect. They put forth minimal effort, and they feel that a drill or class performed years ago, somehow makes them superior. They do the minimums because they are forced to, relying on war stories of the past, to reassure themselves and others of their dominance. They are not what they used to be. We also have those, who berate and belittle those who try. They call them try-hards, and tell them "they

are making everyone else look bad". No accomplishment is spared, as they continuously spread discontent and resentment of achievements they will never reach. They typically spend their time, at the kitchen table or in their favorite chair, only leaving to see what noise is being made outside, mumbling something pessimistic as they walk back to their throne. Their conversations consist of the problems facing their department, all the while, making continued on page 2

Please remember to keep the district up to date with any changes including your contact information.

All changes should be directed to Jennie. These changes may include:

Phone

Address

Email

Banking

Family Additions

Name changes

Profile cont.

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I stay very busy on the days I'm away from work, filling my time working on our property and house as we put down roots in what we hope will be our forever home. When I'm waiting for winter to hit, I spend as much time as I can out in the mountains, whether on a bike or on foot, exploring the beautiful area around us. This love of wild places even led Zoe and I on a 700 -mile backpacking trip in the Canadian Rockies three summers ago, solidifying my opinion of her being the coolest ever!

I'm lucky to have landed here at North Whatcom Fire and Rescue and hope to have a long and fulfilling career. I know that as a probationary Firefighter/EMT, I am challenged and vow to work hard to become a valued member of the family at NWFRS.







Perfection cont.

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no effort to correct them. The only contribution they make to the fire service, is the filling of an empty seat. We also have those who have other commitments,

part time jobs, big investments, or are praying for a future outside of our job. There are those among us, who value a day of little work, or are only here for the benefits.

On the flip side, there are just a few of us, who incorrectly think perfection is attainable. Deep down we have a feeling we'll never reach it, but we still try. We push harder everyday, regardless of the critics, and despite what our gut tells us. We'll

never be perfect or reach perfection, but we always strive for it. That's as close as we will ever come.....striving for perfection. But that's all we need. Because, in all of our work, from all of our dedication, and our false hope of perfection, we gain excellence. Excellence comes from the pursuit of perfection, and it's what our service needs. So keep pushing the limits of what's acceptable, and continue to change what we define as normal. We're the last hope. We're all the future generations have. We're all our family has. We're the only thing that carries the honor, and tradition from our predecessors, forward. So, get up, make a difference, and continue to strive for perfection.....maybe along the way, we'll inspire someone else, to be excellent.

Jay Hurley is a 17 year veteran of the fire service, working as Fire Chief of a suburban department in Georgia. As a student of the fire service, Jay has undergone training in multiple areas, as well as being a graduate of Firefighters Laboring and Mastering Essential Skills, or F.L.A.M.E.S., and the Georgia Smoke Diver Program. Hurley serves as a member of multiple fire service organizations including the Georgia Association of Fire Chiefs, and acts as a Task Force Leader for Georgia Search and Rescue Task Force 6 in NW Georgia. He has been an instructor at the Metro Atlanta Firefighters Conference, and a HOT Instructor at FDIC since 2017. Jay is currently working on a degree in Fire Service Administration, and is Co-founder of "Do Your Part Training".



Holiday Gift Assistance Program



Blaine & Birch Bay's New Holiday Gift Assistance Program

The Community Toy Store is a holiday gift assistance program that seeks to provide a hand up instead of a handout for families facing difficult financial circumstances. This model fully involves the parents, giving them the joy and dignity of personally providing gifts for their own children, as well as being contributors to their community. The program has been operating successfully in Bellingham for about ten years, with Blaine and Birch Bay families, individuals, and organizations involved for the last six years. The Blaine/Birch Bay program is sponsored by the Community Assistance Program and has received the support of the Blaine and Birch Bay Chamber boards and many individuals, businesses, and organizations in our communities.

How Does the Community Toy Store Work?

Brand new, unwrapped toys are donated by community members and prices are marked down 75-90%. Toys are arranged in a store-like setting where parents can shop on a cash-only basis, choosing two gifts per child. Gift cards to clothing-only stores will be available for teens. Families will be referred to the program through the Blaine School District Family Service Center. Proceeds from toy sales will be distributed to non-profits that serve families in our own community.

Donation Information

Having a great selection of good quality toys that will delight a child is key to being able to successfully serve the families and children in our community that might need this assistance. Your help is needed to make this happen!

Donations Needed:

TOYS FOR CHILDREN AGES 2 – 12 BRAND NEW, GOOD-QUALITY TOYS requiring no batteries.

Suggested items: Lego's, K'nex, blocks, other building toys, cars, trucks, trains, action figures, dolls, craft and science kits, dress up clothes, child-sized sleeping bags and play tents, balls, scooters, sports equipment, children's book sets, preschool toys, board games, and puzzles

Gifts should be brand new, good quality toys in the \$10 – \$50 range. Smaller gifts do not get chosen when parents can only choose two gifts per child. If possible, please attach a note listing prices paid for toys. Do not gift wrap toys!

CLOTHING GIFT CARDS FOR TEENS

\$25 gift cards to "clothing only" stores, such as Old Navy, American Eagle, Aeropostale, etc.

MONETARY DONATIONS

may be made at www.blainecap.org using your credit card, or checks may be made out to the Community Assistance Program with "Community Toy Store" in the memo line, and mailed to P.O. Box 1067, Blaine, WA 98231.

Donation deadline is Friday, December 7th.



Your donation of toys will bless not only the children receiving them, but also the parents who are given the gift of dignity and the joy of choosing gifts for their own children, as well as the organizations that receive the proceeds and the families that they work with. Your donations will have a big impact in our community! Thank you!

Public Donation Sites:

Collection boxes will be available throughout Blaine and Birch Bay beginning November 15. Donation deadline is Friday, December 7th. A complete list of donation sites will be coming soon.

About CAP:

The Community Assistance Program (CAP) is an outreach of Blaine area churches, providing community-based social services to residents of Blaine, Birch Bay, Custer, and Point Roberts. They are completely volunteer-based; we have no paid employees. They receive no government funding.

Their mission is to serve the people of Blaine, Birch Bay, Custer and Point Roberts communities who are in need of assistance to meet their basic requirements for food, clothing and other necessities of daily life.

They offer opportunities for individuals, churches and other organizations to serve people in their communities.

In addition to the Community Toy Store the Community Assistance Program offers help with Crisis Assistance, Community Meals and Thanksgiving Baskets.

For additional information visit

www.blainecap.org



Events to Celebrate November Birthdays

1 — Chuck Shipp

7 — Scott Wood

9 — Jon Ahrenholz

10 — Gary Quintrall

11 — John Lovatt

14 — Jennie Sand

18 —Russ Briskin

21 — Lane Renskers

22 — Wayne Sanders

22 — Adam Smith

27 — Robert King

29 — Henry Hollander

Fire Commissioner Meetings NWFR

Thurs. November 15 9408 Odell St 61 Blaine — 1:00 p.m.



District 4

Tues. November 13 4142 Britton Loop St 12 Bellingham —12:00 p.m.



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4142 Britton Loop Rd. Bellingham, WA 98226

Providing quality service for a safe community



Free Friends and Family CPR Classes

Class will be held from 6:30 p.m.—9:30 p.m. at various fire stations around the district. Check out www.nwfrs.com for more information and to reserve your spot.

January 31
February 17
March 28
April 25
May 30
June 27
July 25
August 22
September 26
October 24
November 28
December 19

Donations of nonperishable food items are encouraged but not mandatory. All food donations will be forwarded to local area food banks.

Community Pumpkin Party

North Whatcom Fire and Rescue hosted a Community Pumpkin Party on Monday, October 29 at Britton Loop Station 12.

We had some pumpkins for those children who did not bring one, carving kits, coloring activities, photo venues, hot cocoa to warm little bellies and plenty of sugar to wind everyone up.

A giant thank-you to everyone who volunteered and to all of those who brought their families to participate in our carving

extravaganza!



















Spaghetti Squash Pepperoni Pizza Boats

Courtesy of Delish

Ingredients

2 whole spaghetti squash kosher salt freshly ground black pepper Extra-virgin olive oil for drizzling 1c. chopped pepperoni

2 c. marinara

2 c. shredded mozzarella

1/4 c. chopped parsley

Directions

- . Preheat oven to 400 °. Place spaghetti squash on a plate and microwave 5 minutes. Halve each lengthwise and remove any seeds (be careful of hot steam!). Transfer to a parchment-lined baking sheet, season with salt and pepper and drizzle with olive oil.
- 2. Bake, cut-side down, for 30 minutes. Remove from oven and heat broiler.
- Meanwhile, in a small skillet over medium hear, crisp pepperoni, stirring occasionally. Transfer to plate.
- 4. Loosen spaghetti strands using a fork. Add 1/2 cup marinara, 1/4 cup mozzarella and 1/4 cup crispy

- peperoni to each baked squash half. Mix filling with a fork and top with 1/4 cup more mozzarella and parsley. Return to baking sheet.
- Broil until cheese is melted an golden, 4 to 5 minutes. Serve immediately.

Yields: 4

Prep Time: 15 min.

Total Time: 55 min.

