

CHILDREN AND YOUTH – Terri Campbell; chairman

THANKSGIVING - I hope you and your family had a wonderful Thanksgiving, it is such a blessing that on this particular day we can bring our families together and share a meal and hopefully meaningful conversations around the table or gathering.

YOUTH VOLUNTEERING – A remarkable story I would like to share. After the large storm we all just experienced workers were busy restoring power, perishables were melting, fuel for heating was running out, stores only sold dry goods from reduced power from a generator and things were just getting dire. Three Woodinville high school friends from Cottage Lake Maysen Bury, Jayden Bury and Jayson Kleve, recognized the situation was not good for many with trees that had fallen down. With school being cancelled that day, calls were made between them suggesting they go out to help, and that is what they did. At one time they were running a lawn care business (Bountiful Properties) which did not work out for them. With that experience, heading out with saws, rakes and tools, they went door to door to neighbor's homes asking if help was needed and offered to clean up their yards from debris. This act of kindness meant so much to the neighbors especially the elderly who were unable to maneuver through their yards due to the fallen trees. I applaud these three young men (high school age) that took it upon themselves to come up with this plan. They remarked it was their parents who raised them to put other people first. I am sure they will be blessed for what they did and volunteering must have been a rewarding experience.

YOUTH HERO AWARD - I am pleased to announce that Tyler Mroz received a **Youth Hero Award** from the ALA National Children and Youth Chairman Dr. Lisa Chaplin. He was also awarded a beautiful special pin showing bravery, courage, and fortitude. While Tyler and his mom Aimee were in Mexico vacationing on the beach, Aimee stepped on a Stingray and was stung. Being in excruciating pain and bleeding from her foot along with being unable to walk and blacking out from the intense pain she felt as the venom took control, Tyler swept into action and pulled his mom from the shore and comforted her until the EMS arrived. Aimee spent two days in the hospital after having surgery. When they got home from the hospital Tyler stepped up and helped her daily with all the household tasks. Since the event, Tyler watches "YouTube" videos learning emergency response so in the future if he needs to respond to an emergency he will feel more comfortable dealing with it.



HELPING OUT DAD – While attending the Centralia Area Conference I had the honor of meeting a young boy Kiason Mendez Martinez and his dad Antonio Mendez who were selling homemade patriotic gifts. There were very well-made plaques, belt buckles, flasks, hats, cutting boards, bottle openers and more. Kiason was quite the salesman. I bought a notebook and his dad Antonio was more than happy to engrave my notebook with anything I wanted on the laser machine they bought. If you get a chance to see what they have you will not be disappointed. Kiason too has received an outstanding award (patch on his hat) for things he has done to make a difference which I will mention in another newsletter once I get more information.



Breast Cancer Awareness – South Whidbey High School had a Breast Cancer Awareness presentation during one of their Volleyball Games. Everyone who attended had to wear pink. During intermission, they held a couples contest for the best pink outfit. The competition decisions were difficult because the high school age couples were maxed out in their pink attire. But the winners were two elementary school children Marriana Tucker and Fisher Campbell (my grandson) who shared the \$100 prize. Congratulations. **NOTE: the event brought in several thousands of dollars with donated raffles.**



Please see upcoming newsletters where I will be talking about a Junior member of the year, more information on our Youth Hero Awards. I am also working on coming up with a fundraiser for Children and Youth which I will get the word out once my plans are in place. I have so far collected donations from the District conferences of \$40 in the pink pigs. Oink Oink!