

# CLALLAM CONNECTION

Volume 1, Issue 2  
November 2009



## HEY EVERYONE! LISTEN UP! COLD AND FLU SEASON IS HERE

### Good Hand Hygiene ~

Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds (the time it takes to sing "Happy Birthday" twice). Be sure to wash both sides of your hands, between fingers and under the nails. This is the best way to keep your hands from spreading germs. Try to wash several times a day even if you don't think your hands are dirty.

### Cover Your Cough ~

Be sure to cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue. If you don't have a tissue, use your

elbow or sleeve, not your hand! Don't touch your nose, eyes or mouth – that how germs spread and you get sick. Throw the tissue away!

### Talk to your Doctor about a Flu Shot~

Many pharmacies offer flu shots and so do grocery stores.

### Don't get sick!

### Things To Think About

Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.

~ Mark Twain

## INTRODUCING JENELL DEMATTEO



The Connection had a chance to sit down with Jenell Dematteo, SNAP's new interim director and find out all the news about SNAP.

Jenell and SNAP want everyone to know that SNAP is alive and well. Activities and classes are being "changed up" a bit.

SNAP will involve your mind, body and spirit.

Current Classes offered are a

Women's Group, Voyagers, Helping Hands and EnterpriZe. Look inside for class descriptions.

Future classes will be offered on friendship building, personal safety, talent productions and life skills. A holiday dinner is planned for December 2009. Stay tuned for more info or check it out at [www.snapcc.org](http://www.snapcc.org)

Go SNAP Go!

## HOW ONE AUTISTIC YOUNG MAN RUNS A BUSINESS

Nancy Shute reports in U.S. News and World Report about one young man and his own business: Joe Steffy is off this week to do a PowerPoint presentation on his business, Poppin' Joe's Kettle Korn. He's a 23-year-old business man with a goal of \$100,000 in sales by 2012. Joe also has autism and Down syndrome and is nonverbal. When he gives his talk, he will push buttons on a speech device to deliver the words. His audience will be parents who hope their own special-needs children will be able to work, too.

Joe's parents, Ray and Janet, didn't agree with the assessment of the school district where they lived. The school said Joe would never be able to work or live independently. Ray said "That ticked me off. We saw more in Joe than that. We set out to prove to the school that he had capabilities." They came across kettle corn while on a trip to

Alaska. They realized that all that popping, scooping, and serving suited Joe's love of work.

The path to Joe Steffy's success was not an easy one. Ray Steffy worked closely with Dave Hammis, an advocate for self-employment for people with disabilities. Dave trains business owners, government employees, and parents on how to make use of state and federal programs. The Steffys wrote up a business plan and helped Joe secure grants from programs like Social Security Administration's Plan to Achieve Self-Support program (PASS).

In 2005, Poppin' Joe's Kettle Korn was born. Sales have grown from \$16,000 in 2005 to \$50,000 in 2008, both from selling at festivals and from delivering popcorn to local outlets. Joe has five part-time employees. His parents help with driving and other tasks.

If the business stays on track, it should be grossing more than

\$100,000 in three years. The Steffys are seeking a business partner who can work with Joe to manage the business. Joe is no longer on Social Security disability payments. Now he pays state sales tax and state and federal income tax. He rents his own house and is helped by caregivers.

"It's been hard work, from the standpoint of physical work," says Ray Steffy, who is 67. "But a parent with a child like Joe has a choice. You can either kick in and do this kind of thing, or you can sit and fret emotionally, worrying about what's going to happen to them."

The payoff for that effort, as far as the Steffys are concerned, has been priceless. They see their son make a local popcorn delivery, accept payment and put it in his pocket. When he walks out, his dad says, Joe looks 3 inches taller than when he walked in.



## SPECIAL OLYMPICS

The Clallam County Orcas, part of the Special Olympics of Washington starting its 3rd year. The Orcas provide year round sports activities for people who are Intellectually Disabled. You can be ages 8 through 80. Skills of all levels welcome. All you have to do is want to play in the sports programs.

During the 2008 - 2009 season, the Orcas competed at the regional and State level. Some of

the sports were bowling, basketball, track and field, aquatics, softball and golf. To join or to practice with us, you will need to complete the required paperwork. Once that paperwork is received - you can join for 3 years in any available sport. There are no fees charged.

The Clallam County Orcas is a team that values and depends on volunteers. We are always in need of volunteers to be

coaches, assistant coaches and helpers in many areas. Special Olympics of Washington requires all volunteers to have a Washington State Patrol Background Check.

For information about how you can be an athlete or volunteer, please call Wendy Bonham, Program Coordinator at 360-477-4134.

## WHAT WOULD YOU DO? LAST MONTHS' ANSWER



Last month in *The Connection* the following story was printed and you were asked for advice:

Jerry has a new friend named Pete. They have been having lots of fun going to the movies and listening to music. Jerry works and Pete does not. Lately, Pete has asked Jerry for money. Sometimes it is just money to go to the movies but sometimes it is a lot of money. Jerry does not

have money to spare and Pete gets mad at him. Pete says if Jerry were really his friend, he would give him the money. What should Jerry do?

Here is what readers say:

Jerry should not give Pete money! Jerry should tell Pete not to ask for money anymore.

Pete is not being a good friend to Jerry.

## WHAT WOULD YOU DO? NEW PROBLEM

Read the following story. Then write and tell us what you would do. The best answer will be printed in the next newsletter along with a new problem.

Sara has been chatting on line and has made friends with a boy. He lives in another town

but they talk all the time on the computer. Last week the boy told Sara he would like to meet her. He would like to come visit her. He does not want her to tell anyone. What should Sara do?

Got a Problem?  
Want Advice?

Send questions to The Connection and watch for your letter to be chosen.

Email:  
[TheConnection@co.clallam.wa.us](mailto:TheConnection@co.clallam.wa.us)

## DISABILITIES ASSISTANCE TRUST ORGANIZATION (DATO)

Disabilities Assistance Trust Organization is looking for Volunteers. Meetings are held quarterly. The next meeting is January 12, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. in the Terrace Community Room at 114 E. 6th St. in Port Angeles.

DATO was formed to provide financial assistance to people with physical disabilities who use electronic wheelchairs and scooters, to aid them in getting the funding they need to pay the upfront cost of repairs and or/ replacement of wheelchairs and scooters.



### Accessibility Means User Friendly for Everyone

Make sure walkways are free of objects including over the head. This way people with low or no vision can walk without running into something.

Level surfaces are easier to get around on. Even a gentle slope can make for runaway wheelchair or difficulty in lowering a ramp.

## FLAME THE BAND

"Flame" is taking on the world! If you haven't had a chance, check out this great band. Eleven amazing musicians who happen to have developmental or physical disabilities are making their dreams come true - and making great music!

The website is

[www.flametheband.com](http://www.flametheband.com)

OR watch a YouTube video of them performing

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Oh5tYrKmfq>



## HOLIDAY FOOD SAFETY

### Handle and prepare food safely.

As you fix your holiday meals, keep you and your family safe from food-related illness:

- Wash hands and surfaces often.
- Avoid mixing raw meat, poultry, seafood, and eggs (including their juices) with ready-to-eat foods or eating surfaces.
- Cook foods to the proper temperature.
- Refrigerate food promptly.



## HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS

Holiday gifts don't have to break the bank and you don't have to give the same old gift every year. For folks on a budget or for those who need new ideas, here are some perfectly priced presents.

### For the Men :

- Baseball hats
- Gift cards
- Recordings of all his favorite sports games on TV
- Deck of cards and a book of card game rules
- Movies. Check out sales at the movie store

### For the Women :

- A photo album, add pictures of you or decorate it yourself
- Pens and nice stationery
- Craft supplies
- Teacup and Herbal Tea

### For Everyone:

- Cocoa mixes or gourmet coffees in a mug
- Pancake or waffle mix with a bottle of real maple syrup
- Fancy magazines (gardening, flowers, travel, sports) tied with a ribbon
- Ornament
- Frame a fun picture



# November

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1	2	3	4 EnterpriZe 3:00-5:00	5 Snap Art Class 10:00-12:00 Voyagers 3-5pm Helping Hands 12:30-1:30 DDAC Meeting* 5:30-7:30pm	6	7
8	9	10	11 EnterpriZe 3:00-5:00	12 Snap Art Class 10:00-12:00  Voyagers 3:00-5:00  Helping Hands 12:30-1:30	13	14
15	16	17 Snap Women's Group 3:00 -5:00	18 EnterpriZe 3:00-5:00	19 Snap Art Class 10:00-12:00  Voyagers 3:00-5:00  Helping Hands 12:30-1:30	20	21
22	23	24	25 EnterpriZe 3:00-5:00	26 Thanksgiving Holiday	27 Festival of Trees – Vern Burton Gym Port Angeles	28 Festival of Trees – Vern Burton Gym Port Angeles
29 Festival of Trees – Vern Burton Gym Port Angeles	30		*Thursday, November 5 5:30-7:30pm Developmental Disabilities Advisory Committee (DDAC) Meeting at the Courthouse in Port Angeles			

# 2009

# December

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> EnterpriZe 3:00-5:00	<b>3</b> Snap Art Class 10:00-12:00  Voyagers 3:00-5:00  Helping Hands 12:30-1:30	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Festival of Trees Downtown Forks
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<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Christmas 	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> New Year's Eve		

# 2009

## SNAP CLASSES, FALL 2009

**Women's Group** ~ Led by Victoria Jazwic

Meets the 3rd Monday of the Month 3~5 p.m.

Age: 18 years and older

Fee: \$3 per class

**EnterpriZe** ~ The vision is to train and prepare artists with mentors. The mission is to provide opportunities to create and market artisan products.

Wednesdays 3~5 p.m.

Age: 18 years and older

Fee: \$3 per class

**Art Class** ~ Exploration of art: watercolors, crayon, pencil, chalk and acrylic painting; jewelry and beading; pottery and ceramics; collage and mixed mediums offering participants the freedom to create.

Thursdays 10 a.m~ Noon

Age: 18 years and older

Fee: \$3 per class

**Voyagers** ~ Instructor Bonne Smith leads students in the exploration of our world through hands-on workshops in science and art.

Thursdays 3~5 p.m.

Age: 18 years and older

Fee: \$3 per class

**Helping Hands** ~ Helping Hand's Mission: To partner with community organizations by being of service.

Thursdays 12:30~1:30 p.m.

Age: 18 years and older

Fee: \$3 per class



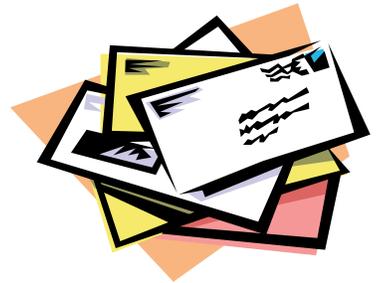
Clallam County Health & Human Services  
223 East Fourth Street, Suite 14  
Port Angeles, WA 98362-3015

Got a Story? Got News? Contact Aimee Barton at  
360-417-2407 or [TheConnection@co.clallam.wa.us](mailto:TheConnection@co.clallam.wa.us)

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