

FRIENDS of the CARPENTER

The Carpenter's Tool Box

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FRIENDS
of the
CARPENTER



The Carpenter's Tool Box is
a monthly publication of
FRIENDS of the
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Inside this issue:

Lenten Bible Study	2
Planning Meetings	2
Rummage Sale	3
Calendar of Events	4
Pay It Forward	5
Woodworker Volunteer Featured	5
Volunteer Opportunities	6

“Which Way The Ball Bounces”

By Rev. Duane L. Sich

And Jesus said to his disciples, “Suppose one of you should go to a friend's house at midnight and say to him, Friend, let me borrow three loaves of bread.” And suppose the person inside would answer, “Don't bother me! The door is already locked and my children and I are in bed.” ... Or would any of you who are parents give your children a snake when they asked for a fish? Would you give them a scorpion when they ask for an egg?” (From Luke 11)

Many times the way things work out defies logic. Some call it luck, others fate. But whatever it is ... it just is. Frequently, just being in the right place at the right time or the wrong place at the wrong time determines good or bad results. Sometimes we get windfalls and other times we get whacked without ever really knowing why. There probably is a reason but you'd have to be a detective to figure out the facts. Much of where we are in life is because of where we started (or were born) or who we met along the way (relationships and connections) and what we did with the gifts or

opportunities we were given. If any of us traced our life history, probably everyone could identify some key events or decisions, probably some specific people who made all the difference to determine where we currently are and what we are doing. It has influenced and determined who we are.

In the same way that we have been influenced by people and forces beyond our self, so we have the ability to influence others. The way “the ball of life bounces” often depends upon which way it was pushed. With many of the friends we meet at Friends of the Carpenter, it is clear that the wrong direction started long ago; sadly, the pace towards dysfunction and destruction picks up speed fast. On the other hand, it's surprising how quickly (and sometimes easily) that disastrous direction can be redirected. Much like the momentum change in a sporting game, so in life, with a few good breaks, a cheering squad and a

Continued on page 2

“Which Way The Ball Bounces” cont. from page 1

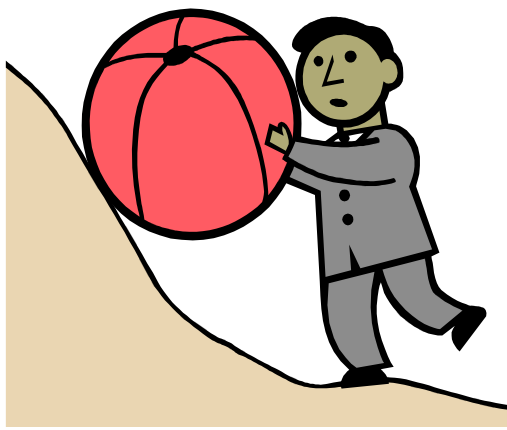
“second wind surge of energy,” it can get good and go better pretty fast.

It’s amazing, humbling and sometimes a little shameful how easy it can be. Not so long ago, Julie and I had a gathering at our home which included a few of our homeless friends. It wasn’t anything fancy, just dinner and fellowship in our home. One of our guests was looking at a collage of the Sich family pictures hanging on the hallway wall. We had a simple conversation about his family and ours, after which I said, “We’re glad to have you in our home.” You could have knocked me over with a feather when he thanked me and then said, “Duane, this is the first home I’ve been in since I came to Washington.” He’d been in Vancouver for over a year.

Pushing the ball in a good direction can sometimes be so simple, you don’t even realize you did it. At the Friendship Center, daily discussions and simple deeds often help our friends find a way over “the humps in life” that are hold-

ing them back. It begins the ball of life rolling in a new direction. Jesus said, “With faith the size of a mustard seed, you can move mountains.” Perhaps the greater gift in the whole exchange is not the one that is given to the person with the problem, but rather the one that is received by the giver.

You are invited to “push the ball” and help point a person onto a new path. Friends of the Carpenter has 200 volunteer positions – a two hour time slot once a month, simple and safe activities – where you can meet and make friends with someone who needs, not a lucky break, but a gift of God’s grace; a gift to guide all of us to a closer connection in the family of God. Give the office a call to find where you can fit in. 750-4752



Lenten Bible Study at The Friendship Center

Five Fridays In March
Noon to 1:30 pm
“**Passion Places**” – looking at five different scenes of Christ’s Path to the Cross. Dr. Bill Lehmann, a retired Lutheran Pastor and College Professor (and a **FOC woodworker!**) will lead our discussion. Bring a sack lunch and your bible. We’ll meet in the Friendship Center conference room. **March 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30**

Fundraising Events Planning Underway
A planning meeting for the Rummage Sale, (held in June) will take place on Thurs. March 1, 1:30 pm at the Center.
An Auction planning meeting will be held on Tues. March 20, 1:30 pm. The auction happens on October 6, 2007.
If you are available to help with any of these projects please come! Or give us a call at 750-4752.

NEW HOME PHONE NUMBER FOR DUANE AND JULIE SICH (360) 433-2969

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8th Annual Rummage Sale

Thur. & Fri. 9 am-6 pm Sat. 9 am-12 noon

June 7, 8, 9



The Friendship Center
1600 W. 20th St.

We will receive your "Gently Used" Treasures
at the Friendship Center, 1600 W. 20th St:

- During regular business hours

Mon. - Fri. 9 am—4 pm

- Selected Saturdays

March 3 & 17—10 am—2 pm

April 7 & 21—10 am—2 pm

May 5 & 19—10 am—2 pm



Useable Electronics, Collectibles, Household Items, Appliances,
Furniture, Tools, Seasonal items, Outdoor Accessories,
Children's Items, Clothing, Books,
Music, Artwork, and Sporting Goods.

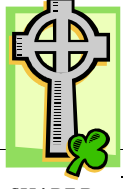
Give Us A Call! (360) 750-4752

Donations of items are tax-deductible!

A Benefit for Friends of the Carpenter

Rummage Sale Planning Meeting— Thurs. March 1, 1:30 pm

FEBRUARY & MARCH 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
February 18 	19 President's Day Holiday Friendship Center Closed	20 Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Open Shop 1-3:30 pm	21 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Noon Worship & Outing	22 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	23 Serve SHARE Breakfast Share Outreach 8:30—11:00 am Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	24 30 Hr. Famine Project with 1st Presbyterian Youth
25 Rev. Sich preaches @ 1st Methodist with Open House 9:30-11:00 am at The Friendship Center	26 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 1:30—3:30 pm SHARE Dinner & WORSHIP	27 Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Open Shop 1-3:30 pm	28 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Noon Worship & EVENT	March 1 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Rummage Sale Meeting 1:30 pm	2 Serve SHARE Breakfast Share Outreach 8:30—11:00 am Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	3 Woodworker Show & Tell 9:30 am Rummage Sale Drop-Off 10—2
4	5 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 1:30—3:30 pm	6 Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Open Shop 1-3:30 pm	7 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Noon Worship & EVENT	8 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	9 Serve SHARE Breakfast Share Outreach 8:30—11:00 am Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	10 
11 FOC Moment for Mission @ St. John Lutheran 8:30/9:45/11:00	12 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 1:30—3:30 pm	13 Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Open Shop 1-3:30 pm	14 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Noon Worship & Newsletter	15 Serve SHARE Breakfast Scroll Saw Blitz & Lunch 9:30—2:30 pm	16 Serve SHARE Breakfast Share Outreach 8:30—11:00 am Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	17 SHARE Brunch & Event Rummage Sale Drop-Off 10 am-2 pm
18 	19 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 1:30—3:30 pm FOC Board Meeting	20 Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Open Shop 1pm Auction Meeting	21 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Noon Worship & Outing	22 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	23 Serve SHARE Breakfast Share Outreach 8:30—11:00 am Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	24 
25 	26 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 1:30—3:30 pm SHARE Dinner & WORSHIP	27 Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Open Shop 1pm	28 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Noon Worship & EVENT	29 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	30 Serve SHARE Breakfast Share Outreach 8:30—11:00 am Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	31

Pay It Back

When Friends



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Forward."

we've copied by the same na movie, check i means is, whe they make volu to Friends of t we can help Everyone feels working. La received just o friends who "P Generally it's such as furn tools or repairs other assistanc folks it was e work.

So far in 2007, three of our fri vehicle for v another who complete appe this month. I gift when w Forward!" Tha

Pay It Forward



When Friends of the Carpenter agrees to assist one of our friends with a significant financial fix, they often say, "I'll pay it back." It's understandable. Nobody likes feeling "beholding," and many think that will "grease the skids" to close the deal. However, what we say is, "You don't have to pay it back. Instead, **Pay it Forward.**" It's a practice we've copied from the movie by the same name. (It's a good movie, check it out.) What it means is, when they are able, they make voluntary donations to Friends of the Carpenter so we can help someone else. Everyone feels good and it's working. Last year, FOC received just over \$2,000 from friends who "Paid It Forward." Generally it's for larger items, such as furniture, vehicles, tools or repairs, rent deposits or other assistance; for a couple folks it was extensive dental work.

So far in 2007, we have helped three of our friends purchase a vehicle for work and have another who will receive complete upper dentures later this month. It honors God's gift when we all "Pay It Forward!" Thank You!



Dennis and Bruce pose with their vehicles—perfect for work!

Woodworking Volunteer Featured

Friends of the Carpenter Woodworker, Henry Crouch was one of the volunteers featured in the "Neighbors speak out" article in the "Neighbors" section of the Columbian newspaper on Wednesday, February 7, 2007. Henry has been a FOC volunteer for the past year. His first introduction to Friends of the Carpenter was when his friend, Jack Artz invited him to a Woodworker Show and Tell on Saturday morning. Since then Henry regularly attends Open Shop on Friday mornings, actively assisting Dan and Julie with projects. He also regularly attends the Woodworker Show & Tell meetings.

Henry retired 22 years ago and moved to the Northwest to be closer to grown children. He enjoys working with wood – especially lathe turning and wood carving. He attends Columbia Presbyterian Church.

We are thankful for Henry's interest and involvement in FOC. We are also thankful to Jack Artz for inviting a friend to be involved with us.

We encourage all of our volunteers to bring a friend along when you volunteer! It's a great way to get more people aware of the ministry and involved!

**FRIENDS of the
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of the
CARPENTER



February, 2007

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Cell Phone: 360-936-3421

Barbara Williams, Volunteer Coordinator
Cell Phone: 360-936-3490

Dan Nicholas, Shop Foreman
Cell Phone: 360-771-0761

Julie Sich, Product & Center Activity Coord.

Judy Enders, Financial Secretary

Email: Duane@friendsofthecarpenter.org

WEB PAGE: friendsofthecarpenter.org

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WA

Inviting the Homeless to

C -ommunity

H -ope

R -enewal

I -nspiration

S -elf Esteem

T -ruth

Through Friendship

*Dear Friends, Let us love one another because love comes from God.
Whoever loves is a child of God and knows God. 1 John 4:7*



WE WANT YOU!!!

- Center Activity Hosts/Angels – Every Tuesday morning beginning at 9:30 we begin with singing and a short devotion, followed by an activity. We need and want volunteers to be present to join in with the devotion and then participate with the activity. We end the morning activity by 11:30.
- Hospitality Hosts – The first person to greet all who come to the Center and to answer the telephone is the Hospitality Host. There are morning (9:00 am – 12:00) and an afternoon (1:00 pm – 4:00 pm) shifts available. Maybe you would like to commit to one morning or afternoon a week. This is a great way to meet and greet people!
- Product Room/Warehouse Hosts – As we are trying to have more activity at the Center, we find that we need more volunteers to be on the premises. We would ask these volunteers to be very flexible as to their tasks. As we have participants coming, we would ask our volunteers to be active supervisors – participating in the activity as well as supervising. So we need and want more volunteers on the premises to interact with all who come to the Center.