

SKAGIT COVID CRUSHER COMMENDATIONS

Several weeks ago the Skagit Change-Maker Award was postponed due to the challenging events caused by Covid-19. Instead, the organizers of the award decided to recognize that many ways local people were demonstrating the types of characteristics intended by the Change-Maker award and the memory of Terry Belcoe.

The community was asked to nominate people making extraordinary efforts to help those in need. The results were nothing short of inspiring and with the support of Skagit Valley Publishing, a COVID Crusher was chosen each week and published in the Skagit Valley Herald to recognize the sacrifices and support in our community.

In our final recognition, we want to share all the nominated individuals and/or organizations. It is humbling to hear the full stories when a community comes together during such challenging times. Thank you to all of those in Skagit County that have worked tirelessly to support this special place we call home.

Be assured, there will be a Skagit Change-Maker Award in the future, when it is appropriate.

COVID CRUSHERS RECOGNIZED



Scott Holley nominated by Bill Henkel and Elizabeth Rusnak



Skagit County Health Department nominated by many



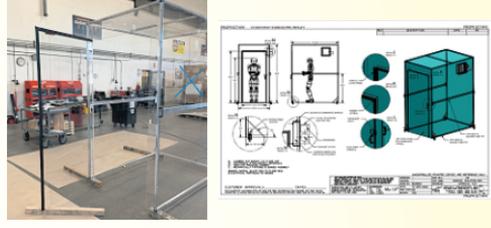
Tony & Tina Asp nominated by Ian Faley



Ariana Salazar, Maria Velazquez Salazar, Susie Manrique, Jaime Thompson and Josephine Escalante of Child Care Aware nominated by Delenee Brugman



Skagit County Food Banks and Emergency Food Network nominated by many



Andy Bridge, Janicki and Bryan Harris, Janicki nominated by Scott Holley and Sue Krienen.

NOMINATED COVID CRUSHERS NOT PUBLISHED

Juliene Wall, SPARC Preschool Teacher nominated by Amanda Sloan, SPARC

Juliene has demonstrated positive leadership skills as she stepped outside her comfort level to encourage others to meet the needs of our community. As a result, students with various disabilities and cultural backgrounds are getting to virtually see their teachers and therapists in spite of the school closures. The virtual circle time has brought whole families together, providing hope, joy and encouragement that they are not alone — not just during this crisis, but in the daily struggles of raising a child with a disability.

Rena Larsen, Skagit Attitudes of Gratitude nominated by Tamme Driver, Mike Yeoman and Tina Asp

SAoG has been working hard to cheer up the community during COVID19. With the donations they receive, they are purchasing gifts and tokens of appreciation from local merchants to give to those on the frontlines. Including grocery workers, postal workers, bus drivers, medical workers. You name it, they are looking to appreciate those that are having to put their health out there to work.

Mountain Glen Retirement Living nominated by Pat Lane, Mountain Glen

Mountain Glen has worked hard to put many protocols in place to prevent the spread of the virus, protecting residents, staff and the community at large. They have not had a single case amongst their 100+ residents and 50+ staff.

Annette Booth, Allstate Insurance nominated by Diana Anderson

Annette is such a blessing to many during this time of uncertainty she has closed her office to the public; however, she goes in each and every day to be there on the phones to answer questions for her customers. Knowing she and her staff care makes all the difference in the world.

Paul and Danny Pickering, Max Dales nominated by Joe Lindquist and Amelia Cook.

Paul and Danny's business is suffering a great deal during this time of crisis, but they have stepped up to help others in need during this time. They hosted Lockdown Dinner Specials for the past month to keep their restaurants running and as an opportunity to bring awareness to non-profit organizations in our community, to which they donate 10% of their Lockdown Dinner proceeds.

Kayla Schott-Bresler, Skagit County Deputy Administrator nominated by Amanda Hubik

Kayla has always been a person with kindness in her heart and a deep focus on what's important to the greater good in her work attitude. As this crisis has kicked in, she has been incredibly responsive to the needs of her community, all the while keeping this same kindness and focus that were so prevalent before.

Morgan Curry, Skagit Gleaners nominated by Sue Krienen

Morgan and Skagit Gleaners have provided significant support to our community and opened up their doors and hearts to share their abundance. In March, they served 11,000 people providing almost 75,000 pounds of food. They recently provided 15,000 pounds of bread to other food banks and food pantries like Madison Elementary and Mount Vernon High School. They promote an attitude of gratitude and have many volunteers that support their activities.

Tulip Town nominated by Nichole Long and Colleen Smiley

Tulip Town (also known as the investment group Spinach Bus) has really pivoted during this unique time, and launched Colors Of Courage. They deliver tulips to groups, businesses, and others supporting or working as essential workers during COVID-19. They have given significantly to Skagit businesses, first responders, military, those hospitalized and in nursing homes and much more. They are even providing virtual tours of the fields daily so we can all enjoy the beauty of the flowers. They embody what it means to be selfless and giving during this pandemic!

Adair Brown, Northwest Youth Services (NWYS) nominated by Mandi Rothman, NWYS

Adair assists youth experiencing homelessness in Skagit County. The population she works with is even more vulnerable now during Covid-19. Adair's work with youth has a profound impact on young members of our community who may otherwise not know how to stay healthy.

This effort aims to tell stories of exemplary community members doing heroic and heartwarming deeds during this time of crisis. It is related to the Skagit Change-Maker Award inspired by the actions and dedication of Terry Belcoe, through the partnership of United Way, Community Action, EDASC, North Coast Credit Union, and Skagit County. This recognition is made possible through the generosity of Skagit Publishing.

