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Holland Happening!



New Leaf joins the Holland Happening parade at the start of the festival

Holland Happening 2022 was a great success and a ton of fun. Vendors of all sorts and several enticing food trucks descended on Oak Harbor’s own Windjammer Park for a weekend full of community fun.

The return of Holland Happening after a couple of COVID years was source of enjoyment for people throughout the community and the broader area. Magicians, musicians, artists, artisans, merchants, and wandering dinosaurs—all could be found enjoying the beautiful weather and fun atmosphere.

The parade began in the late morning, and the Whidbey Island weather obliged with cloudy skies and cool temperatures. New Leaf Quality Control & Safety Assistant Adam Troyer drove the pride and joy of the Grounds Maintenance crew, the New Holland “Big Blue” tractor, pulling behind him a trailer full of joyous New Leafers. The parade wound down Pioneer Way and Bayshore Drive before coming to its conclusion at Windjammer Park.

Holland Happening! (continued)

By noon the weather had cleared and the rest of the weekend was sunny and beautiful. New Leaf had a booth, information center, and carnival games set up at Holland Happening. Interim CEO/Executive Director and Director of Operations Glenn Kincaid built a custom New Leaf-themed football toss that proved to be a hit at the event.

The New Leaf booth also featured a ring toss and plenty of New Leaf recruiting material. Randall Rapp from the commissary crew came and helped out at the booth, and New Leaf admin team members took turns managing the football toss and the ring toss as kids and adults alike came by and practiced their aim.



Above: New Leaf's own Football Toss game.

Below: Director of HR/VS Michelle Leach takes New Leaf staff for a spin parade-style.



Holland Happening! (continued)



Above: Steve Jacobs braces for impact.

Below right: Killian, age 6, was the first to hit the target and get Steve all wet.

One of the highlights of the weekend was the dunk tank, an event that always attracts attention and brings plenty of cheers. Interim CEO/ED Steve Jacobs was the first to brave the dunk tank on the warm (but not exactly hot) afternoon, taking his perch directly above a few hundred gallons of chilly H₂O.

Documentation Manager Ryan Brooke took the first shots at the target, but his velocity was better than his aim. A few others tried their hand, but it took a 6 year-old arm belonging to a young man named Kilian to finally hit center and make a splash.

Steve ended up getting more than his share of cold water, and the dunk tank ended up raising over \$2300 for local charity SPiN Café and the North Whidbey Sunrise Rotary Walk for Water project.



Holland Happening! (continued)



Above: Director of Operations Glenn Kincaid and retired crew member Mike Murcay get ready for the parade.

Below: Inside the New Leaf booth at Holland Happening.



Holland Happening! (continued)



Above left; New Leaf Maintenance Specialist Scott Taylor and the New Leaf wooden shoe boat he built for the Holland Happening boat race.

Above right: New Leafers and dino.

Below: Oak Harbor Chamber of Commerce Director Vicky Graham announces the boat race victor.

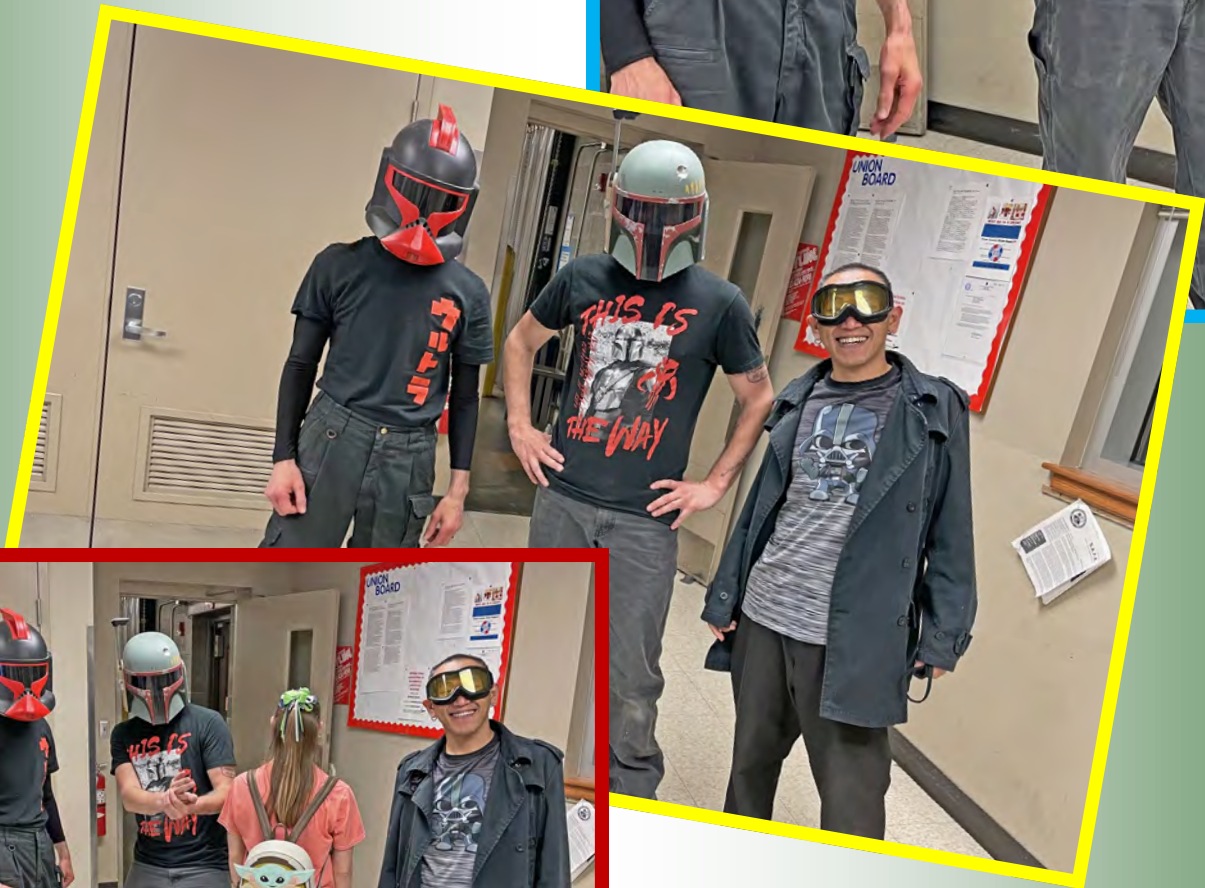


May the Fourth Be With You

Star Wars is an institution, a franchise, a way of life. For some it's an annual reason to celebrate. (For others, sadly perhaps, it's just a movie series that they've heard of.)

May 4th every year is a day to commemorate and celebrate a cosmic story that has touched the lives of millions. Costumes, characters, and movie parties abound.

This year, some good folks from the Whidbey Island commissary crew took it up a notch. Check out these pics of John Trindle, Rodrigo Olaguera, Carrie Johnson, and Randall Rapp. You'll have to guess who is who.



X Force 2022

Believe it or not, X Force has nothing to do with Star Wars. (See previous story.) X Force is SourceAmerica's annual conference for SourceAmerica NPA staff and employees to learn new information and new skills that can be used to better create employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

As SourceAmerica puts it, X Force is about being a force for change, deepening knowledge, expanding networks, gaining insights into issues that matter, and celebrating a workforce of people with disabilities.



Director of Finance Cathy George and Payroll & Benefits Manager Melissa Nunez joined Steve Jacobs in Dallas for the weeklong conference.

They attended classes on everything ranging from utilizing SourceAmerica grants to best practices for maintaining quality on service contracts. The event was a success for all.



SourceAmerica

AbilityOne

PROGRAM



Galley crew passes inspection!

Project Manager Lindsey Westman and the Galley crew recently underwent a thorough and exacting inspection of their facilities and their work processes. An entire crew of quality assurance inspectors from the Navy came and inspected for sanitation and safety.

The Navy QA team spent a full week checking cleanliness, sterilization, water temperature, and equipment care. They also checked employees' PPE and cleaning processes to ensure that the necessary work is being done completely and safely. The whole team passed with flying colors.



Galley crew passes inspection! (continued)

Lindsey was pleased with the crew's hard work and great attitude. Said Westman, "The employees pulled together and did a great job of getting ready for the inspection and ensuring that they Galley looks good, even in the places that are hard to see. We came together and worked hard to get it done. It was a whole group effort." Great job, team!



Earth Day

New Leaf Quality Control & Safety Assistant Adam Troyer and Documentation Manager Ryan Brooke joined Naval Air Station Whidbey Island to commemorate Earth Day by planting trees outside the Fleet and Family Center on Ault Field.

Leading the tree planting was Brad of the Oak Harbor Garry Oak Society. Captain Eric Hanks, Commanding Officer, NAS Whidbey Island, was also on hand to mark the day by planting trees for NASWI's future.



Above right: Captain Eric Hanks assists in tree planting on the Ault Field base.

Below: Adam Troyer prepares a tree guard to protect a freshly-planted sapling.



Employee Awards!

Congratulations to recent winners of New Leaf crew awards! Shea Niles of the Galley won the Silver Spoon Award, Michael Plumley of Grounds won the Grounds Maintenance Award, and Wendy Aston and Becca Hardin of the Janitorial crew won Golden Mop awards for their dedication to their work. New Leaf extends congratulations and thanks to our hard-working employees.



New Leaf awards 2022 scholarships to deserving students

The 2022 winners of the New Leaf / Jo Balda Community Service Scholarship have been announced! The scholarship winners were selected based on their demonstration of academic achievement and past, current, and future commitment to serving their community.

New Leaf is thrilled to announce the winners and proud to be a small part of their academic journeys. The well-deserving winners each received \$2000 for their educational endeavors.

The winners are:

- ◆ Oak Harbor High School: William Champignon, Ezra Franklin, Kenneth Tofah
- ◆ Coupeville High School: Cecilia Camarena-Barajas
- ◆ South Whidbey High School: Sydney Carver, Margaret Nattress

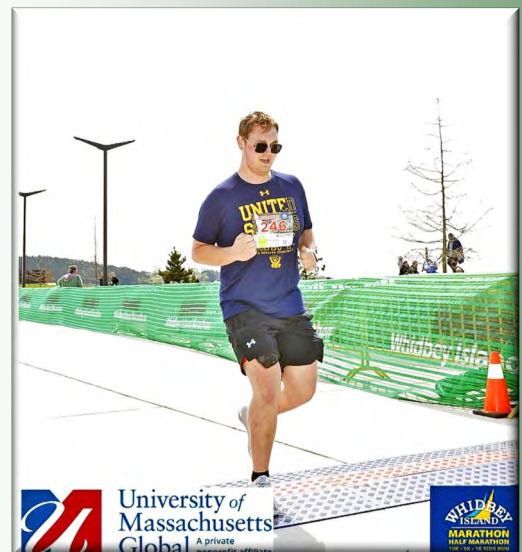
Jo Balda was a longtime member of the New Leaf Board of Directors and an active member of the Oak Harbor Community. Since 2005 New Leaf has sought to honor her dedication and her memory by awarding the Jo Balda scholarship to deserving Whidbey Island high school graduates.



New Leaf Board of Directors President Darin Hand and Interim CEO/ED Steve Jacobs with scholarship winners from Oak Harbor High School.

Marathoning!

Congratulations to Jessica Zook and Nick Dymond of the CDC crew on running the half-marathon at the Whidbey Island Marathon 2022! Jessica and Nick both completed the 13.1 mile course that wound through and around Oak Harbor. Way to go, Jess and Nick!



New Leaf Hires Vets

As an AbilityOne contractor and an NPA dedicated to promoting independence and quality of life through employment, New Leaf actively seeks to hire veterans and wounded warriors. Veterans are plentiful among New Leaf staff and employees.

For its active work in seeking to hire veterans, New Leaf was awarded a commemorative coin by YesVets, a state agency promoting inclusive workforce solutions for the benefit of America's veterans. New Leaf Human Resources & Vocational Services Specialist Brent Bowden, himself a veteran and wounded warrior, reached out to YesVets to share our mission and seek avenues of cooperation.



Veteran's Employment Representative Martin Symonds of Skagit/Whatcom/Island/San Juan counties issued the coin in recognition of New Leaf's efforts. Check it out and thank a veteran today!

Around New Leaf



Above: New Leaf won the Oak Harbor Chamber of Commerce Large Business of the Month award for April 2022! The admin staff pose proudly with the award plaque.

Below: Glenn Kincaid tests new grounds maintenance equipment.



Around Town

Oak Harbor and the surrounding area offer a ton of beautiful sights and fun activities, especially during the summer. Buskers on the Corner is one such activity. Located just a down the hill from the New Leaf office, the newly-built Pop-Up Plaza has a stage for performers and seating and standing room for visitors. It's there that the action happens on Friday evenings 5 - 6 pm during the summer months, Local bands and performers play for the public, hoping to get some exposure, have some fun, and pick up a few bucks from people who stop by to enjoy the show.

Fridays evenings are booked through August 26th, so head on down for some live music. Check out the details here [The atmosphere promises to be electric.](#) (Or possibly acoustic.)



For more info on Buskers on the Corner, go here: oakharbormainstreet.org/events



Buskers on the Corner at Pop-Up Plaza is located one block southwest of the New Leaf building on the corner of Dock Street and Pioneer Way.

Do you know New Leaf?

How much do you know about New Leaf? Take the quick quiz below and submit your answers via email to frontdesk@newleafinc.org. The first employee to submit a 100% correct quiz will win a gift card! Be sure to include your name and crew name. (Sorry PMs, Sups, and Admin staff; this is available only to non-supervisory crew members.)

Q1: Who founded New Leaf?

- A. The US Federal Government
- B. Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Island County
- C. Parents who were seeking employment opportunities for their developmentally disabled adult sons and daughters.
- D. The Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

Q2: In 1973 New Leaf was awarded the first ever Federal Service Contract under which act (of law)?

- A. The Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938
- B. The Landrum-Griffen Act of 1959
- C. The Civil Rights Act of 1965
- D. The Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act of 1971 (now known as AbilityOne).

Q3: The very first time a US federal government agency contracted to purchase services from people with disabilities, that contract was with _____?

- A. IBM
- B. New Leaf
- C. The United States Navy
- D. McDonald's

Q4: As a nonprofit agency under the federal AbilityOne program, New Leaf is required to have at least what percent of all direct labor hours performed by people with significant disabilities?

- A. 10%
- B. 25%
- C. 50%
- D. 75%

Q5: Name two of New Leaf's work crews.

- A. Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable
- B. Plumbing, Electrical
- C. Grounds Maintenance, Janitorial
- D. Fries, Shakes

If you want to do more challenges of all kinds and take a shot at bigger prizes, join in the Whidbey Island Scavenger Hunt!

Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Island County is hosting the event from July 8-July 18. Check it out at bbbsislandcounty.org/wish.



Hard at Work



Above left: Glenn Kincaid, Steve Jacobs, and Adam Troyer build an equipment bench for Grounds. Above right: Financial Assistant Mike Harris inspects the server. Foreground: Glenn and Steve provide assistance.

Below: Michelle Leach and Ryan Brooke talk to the Safety Committee about safety.



Views of New Leaf

We love the smell of freshly cut grass in the morning.



Taking care of business: Steve Jacobs.

Employee Spotlight

Jossie Rousselle — Admiral Nimitz Galley

How long have you worked at New Leaf?

Since 2008. I used to work for the Base Exchange. I learned of New Leaf from working on the base.

Where were you born and raised?

The Philippines. I moved to the US as an adult, but fortunately I had studied English in school so when I arrived here I could get by. When I was in school it was a requirement to take several semesters of English language classes.

What brought you to the US?

Initially I came just to visit my sisters, but here in America I met a man from Arizona and 30 years later, he's still my husband. We have two children and three grandchildren. The grandkids live in San Diego and from time to time we go down and visit them.

What is the best thing about your job?

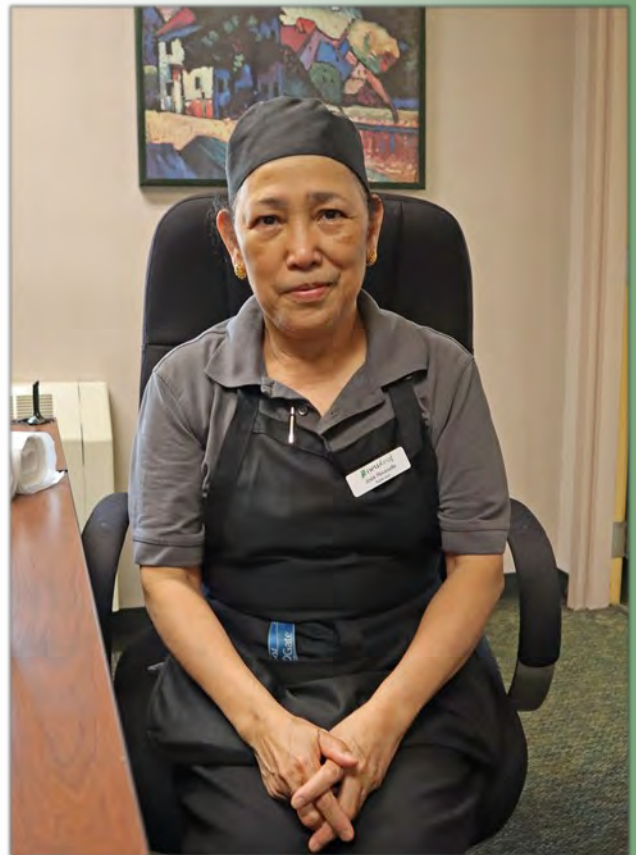
I like moving around. I can be active and move at work. It helps me stay energized.

What are your hobbies?

I like to stay active, especially outdoors. I love doing yardwork, including mowing and light landscaping. I manage the fruit trees in our yard and try to take care of the blackberry bushes too. Even in the winter I like to get outdoors and keep moving.

What is something that people at New Leaf might not know about you?

I don't like to drive. I do drive, and I drive safely, but I don't enjoy it. Also I like big dogs. Currently I have a Dobermann Pinscher – a big one – and a collie. In the past I've had a German Shepherd and an Alaskan Malamute.



Happy Anniversary

Mona Laverdure	21 years	Cathy George	5 years
Matthew Johnson	18 years	Nathan Sodano	5 years
Rachel Johnson	15 years	Shea Niles	5 years
Mike Hammernik	15 years	April VanRens	4 years
Michael Johnson	13 years	Melissa Nuanez	3 years
Gary Anglum	11 years	Tylan Watts	3 years
Nicole Bustillo	8 years	Michelle Leach	2 years
Christine Westman	7 years	Carol Ishizaka	2 years
Stephen Fontenette	6 years	Nick Dymond	2 years
Railand Bartlett	6 years	Wendy Aston	2 years

Happy Birthday

Donovan Clark	July 4
Robert Dallas	July 7
Lindsey Westman	July 14
Matthew Thomason	July 16
Zachary Dirig	July 13
Colin Stewart	July 23
Gene Pulu	August 1
Wesley Worrel	August 5
Chloe Foster	August 5
Jorden Szypula	August 10
Travis Estep	August 12
Rebecca Hardin	August 13
Bryan Norton	August 20
Joseph Pogacsas	August 20
Skyler Wallin	August 21
Hidemi Dettman	August 21
Melissa Nuanez	August 25
Josefina Rousselle	August 29
Gary Anglum	August 31
Mo Morrison	September 10
Jason Park	September 14
Wesley Worrel Jr	September 16
Charles Barbin	September 17
Rachel Johnson	September 22
Michael Plumley	September 26
Meghan Sowers	September 28

Welcome new employees!

Dave Jacobsen	Night Janitorial
Sable McKinney	Night Janitorial
Stacy Jappert	Floor Care
Skyler Wallin	Shelf Stocking
Jose Esparza	Day Janitorial
Jesse Rubio Ambrose	Floor Care
Stephanie Harris	CDC
Joseph Pogacsas	Floor Care
Timoteo Aston	Galley
Lalena Calkins	Shelf Stocking
Nathan Dymond	Night Janitorial

