

Donna Nault

From: Susan Kirchoff <susan@youthconnectionwa.org>
Sent: Monday, June 6, 2022 6:00 PM
To: Donna Nault
Subject: Open Forum for Citizen Input: Pride Month Declaration

You don't often get email from susan@youthconnectionwa.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

In response to proclamation for LGBTQ+

My name is Susan Kirchoff I am the executive director of The Youth Connection and am in support of this declaration to acknowledge and support all young people in our community. It is important that Mason County as a whole as well as the Shelton City Council members support and work to inspire equity, create alliances, celebrate diversity, and establish safe environments in our schools and communities throughout the City and County. We at the Youth Connection already implement and embody these attributes.

Thank you,

Susan Kirchoff - MBA, MHS - Director

(She, Her, Hers)

The Youth Connection

Belfair/Shelton Locations

360-462-0125

www.sheltonyouthconnection.org

*The Youth Connection is a **SAFE SPACE** for all abilities, ages, ethnicities/nationalities, gender identities, races, religions, sexual orientations, and social classes.*



Making Connections and Changing Lives of Youth 12 to 24

Donna Nault

From: Kelle Oblizalo <kelleo@hcc.net>
Sent: Monday, June 6, 2022 8:34 PM
To: Donna Nault
Subject: Declaration

You don't often get email from kelleo@hcc.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello!

The Pride declaration is long overdue for our county. I am in 100% of it and it makes me proud to live in Mason County to have it finally happen!

Thanks!

Kelle Oblizalo
Resident of Mason Co

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

Jill McKnight
250 E. Fairfield Court
Shelton, WA 98584

June 6, 2022

Shelton City Council
Letter sent via e-mail

Dear Councilmembers,

My name is Jill McKnight and I have been an active member of the Shelton community since moving here 5 years ago.

Thank you so much for the unequivocal support for the “rights, freedoms, and equal treatment of” LGBTQ+ people by making this important Proclamation in Shelton.

As a certified life coach, it is incredibly satisfying to see Shelton join the many communities across our Country to ensure the inclusivity of all. As a small town, we are all made better by wholeheartedly accepting every person as an important, valuable member of our community. In truth, we are all far more alike than not and coming together to support one another significantly improves the quality of life here in Shelton. Furthermore, as the leaders of Shelton, being a symbol of tolerance models correct and appropriate behavior.

This is particularly important for young people. Many of whom are often the most vulnerable in society. According to the Trevor Report in November 2021, almost half of LGBTQ youth in small towns and rural areas state that their community is “somewhat or very unaccepting” of LGBTQ people. In fact, the rates of suicide amongst LGBTQ+ youth are significantly higher in rural locations than young people that identify as cisgender and straight. Understanding that they matter and will be accepted, no matter their sexual orientation and gender identity, encourages strong development and growth; ultimately leading to positive community involvement.

Lots of problems in contemporary society call for a myriad of complex solutions. Today, as councilmembers, you have the tremendous privilege of passing a simple, meaningful resolution that all people may benefit from; the Proclamation that all in the City of Shelton are welcome. This leads the way for other organizations to follow suit and provide real change in our communities.

The increase in positive mental health when inclusivity and tolerance are embraced is enormous. Thank you again for taking this step and demonstrating vital leadership in Shelton. I sincerely appreciate your efforts!

Warmest regards,

Jill McKnight
Locate Speaking and Coaching

June 6, 2022

To whom it may concern,

For years, we have been dealing with continual damage to our cars and our property from other people's cats. Over the years we have spent a considerable amount of money on various cat deterrents such as ultrasonic pest deterrent, motion sensor sprinklers, and citrus based scents to try and stop this damage, but it never ends.

The hoods of our cars suffer continuous scratches and damage from multiple cats constantly jumping on them. The last couple of weeks we have been refreshing our landscaping and putting new beauty bark down and it's being turned into a giant litter box not to mention the damage to the plants. We have spent a lot of time and money trying to protect our garden boxes and have had to put fencing around them to try and keep the cats out. The cats have ruined our lawn furniture by climbing on it and have turned our bird feeders into an all you can eat buffet. We have \$10,000 dollars' worth of fencing that does nothing to stop this. The cats have done considerable damage to some of our fencing by sharpening their claws on it.

We are tired of all the money and time spent on this problem. We don't feel that we should have to spend the few hours a week we get away from work having to deal with other people's cats and their destruction. The owners of the cats are not being held accountable for their animal's behavior. Even the pet adoption place's make you sign a contract saying that you will keep your cat inside for its own safety. If dogs were to be causing this amount of damage to our property there are repercussions for the owners because the dog is supposed to be licensed and on their owners property, but for some reason cats are allowed to be very destructive with no ordinances in place.

As cat owners whose animals never bothered anyone because they lived inside, we do not understand why all animals in the city limits are not required to be licensed and stay on their owner's property. How much more of our time and money are we expected to have to spend on this?

Attached is a small sample of many pictures of the damage to our property and a couple pictures of the cats that have caused the damage.

Thanks for your time,

Eric and Jo Anna Rasmussen