

Guns get hosed at first annual softball game

Donations poured in to help food bank, Lake Stevens Family Center

BY PAM STEVENS | MANAGING EDITOR

Let's just say that the Lake Stevens Fire District was on fire on Saturday at Cavelero Mid High School as they played Lake Stevens Police in the first annual Guns and Hoses softball game to help the Lake Stevens Food Bank and the Lake Stevens Family Center.

Spectators were asked to bring a box of macaroni and cheese for the food bank or a new, unwrapped toy that will go to the Lake Stevens Family Center to use for Christmas gifts and bring them they did.

Not only did the teams collect 222 food items but they also collected 345 toys and over \$75 in

cash all in an effort to help those in need in Lake Stevens.

In return, those in attendance had a great time watching our local police and firefighters swing and run around the bases with smiles on their faces.

The afternoon started with the singing of the National Anthem by Lake Stevens High School sophomore Ellie White. Soon the guys were on the field and ready to start the game. The crowd started cheering as soon as the first pitch was thrown.

Police Chief Randy Celori and Fire Chief Dave Lingenfelter pitched for their respective teams. With a few walks and a lot of homeruns, mostly by the fire

district boys, everyone was in for a great evening. The best part was being able to help out those in Lake Stevens who might need a little pick-me-up.

"Both the food bank and the Family Center are excellent causes," Lake Stevens Fire Chief Dave Lingenfelter said. "I'll do that anytime!"

The fire district beat the police department 32-12, but according to Lake Stevens Police Chief Randy Celori, that was how it was supposed to be.

"We let the fire department win so they'll come back next year," he said with a big smile on his face.

Celori, who plays in the Aquafest Celebrity Softball game each summer, initiated the game after recalling the years he served in the

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Fire Chief Dave Lingenfelter throws the first pitch. For more photos visit www.lakestevensjournal.com.

Photo by Laana Larsen

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military in New York.

"When I was stationed in New York, we had a similar thing," Celori said. "I asked Dave (Lingenfelter) and he thought it was a great idea."

Laana Larsen from L.S. Fire and Julie Ubert from the L.S. Police put the event together as a way for the two entities to be able to play together for a good cause.

"Getting together in a non-emergency helps strengthen relationships," Larsen said. "I can't wait to do it again next year."

Thanks to DJ Bob Justice for supplying the great music and sound system, Chris Jones and Gary Smith for umpiring the game.

Thank you also to the Lake Stevens Police team Celori, Brooks, Nelson, McCourt, Blakely, Townsend, Planalp, Warbis, Thor and Miner.

And to the Lake Stevens Fire District team which included Lingenfelter, Huff, Cook, Rasmussen, Pena, Petersen, Mulligan, Bottin, Wick, Keis and Slagle.



Police Chief Randy Celori swings at the ball.

Photo by Laana Larsen