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Help Support Kids

Landed Gentry is a proud, long time supporter of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Skagit County (BGCSC). Are you interested in supporting this wonderful organization? Here are some facts:

Founded in 1997, the BGCSC is affiliated with over 4400 Boys & Girls Clubs across the country; with a mission "to inspire and enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens."

The four Skagit County locations, 2219 M Ave in Anacortes, 305 N. 6th in La Conner, 1100 N. La Venture in Mount Vernon, and 201 N. Township in Sedro-Woolley, focus on core program areas: Character & Leadership Development, Education & Career Development, Health & Life Skills, The Arts, and Sports, Fitness & Recreation, through after-school athletic and educational programs.

There are several ways to be involved:

Volunteers always needed – over 2400 volunteer hours were chalked up in 2007 alone!

Learning the Language of Building

If you spend any time on a construction site, you're likely to hear words that sound like a foreign language. Worse yet, you may hear words that you thought you knew but which have some specialized meaning to the people around you.

Don't worry! You aren't really on another planet. Like any profession, the home building community has a language all its own. Because effective communication is a critical element in meeting our clients' expectations, we make it a priority to help clients understand the building process. This includes some familiarity with the language of building. Here are several common building terms that, when understood, can help us communicate effectively.

- **Cycle time** is the number of days between the first day on the job site and a home's completion. We work with our materials suppliers and subcontractors to determine a reliable cycle time so that our clients can move into their new home on time, as promised. Controlling cycle time also enables us to provide accurate estimates and helps us stay within budget.
- **"Rough-in"**: The "rough" stage of construction is the behind-the-wall structural and mechanical work, the parts you don't see when the building is complete. That includes work such as framing the walls, pulling the wiring through the studs, and installing pipes and heating ducts. During this point of the construction process, we can "rough-in" a system or product that provides an upgraded or extra service, such as wiring for a high-speed Internet or digital cable network. Installing a system's "backbone" during the rough-in stage of construction costs significantly less than installing it once the house is finished.
- **Staging**: To help reduce costs, we **stage** or organize and schedule the delivery of materials as we need them, rather than receiving a huge load all at once. Staging may also refer to the way we place loads of materials on the job site to make them more accessible to various workers. Both practices help us reduce waste and theft, save time, and keep better track of costs -- all of which keeps budget and cycle time on track.



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Currently, volunteers and attendees are needed for the Golf and Gala committees and events.

Donations gladly accepted: nearly 1/3 of annual revenue comes from contributions, while 89% of all monies received goes directly to programming and development.

Attend a special event: not only will you have a great time, you are supporting a very worth cause. Upcoming 2008 events include: Anacortes Breakfast May 15, LaConner Auction June 14, Golf Tournament Sept 15 at Avalon, "Jazz it up for Kids" Auction and Dinner Nov 1 at St Joseph Center.

For more information, please contact the Administrative Office at 360.404.2031 or kids@bgcskagit.org.

As a side note: our own Barbara Ward, a Land Gentry employee for over 10 years, was a founding board member of BGCSC. We are all very proud to be part of what Barbara help to create.

- **Tape and texture:** To create a finished wall, our drywall contractor applies **tape and texture** to hide nail or screw heads and conceal the joints between panels of drywall or gypsum wallboard. The contractor uses a mud-like compound to fill and cover the nail heads and secure a fibrous tape that bridges the joints between adjacent drywall panels. The mud is allowed to dry and is then sanded smooth before applying paint, wallpaper, or other finishes. A quality tape and texture job ensures that cracks or nail heads won't show through finished surfaces.

And this is just a sampling of common terminology used on a building site! We'll be back with more vocabulary in a future edition.

Warm regards,

Brian

Brian Gentry
President



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Our Communities:

