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CONTACT INFORMATION:

SILVERDALE ROTARY CLUB

Steven Boe

360-204-4493

Steven@StevenBoe.com

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27th SILVERDALE ROTARY DUCK RACE CANCELLED

"One of the hardest decisions we've ever made."

Silverdale, WA April 22nd — It's with a heavy heart that the Silverdale Rotary Club announces that this year's Silverdale Rotary Duck Race has been cancelled as they shift their focus toward immediate Covid19 relief projects. "It takes so many committed and hardworking volunteers, working closely together to put on this beloved event." Says club president Christie Scheffer. "It's one of the hardest decisions we've ever made. The Duck Race is such an iconic part of Silverdale and means so much to so many people. 100% of the funds raised have been reinvested back into the community to meet needs. It has been an opportunity for community members to contribute and make a real difference in their own community."

The Silverdale Rotary Duck Race has been the club's major fundraising event for 27 years. The public buys tickets which correspond to numbered rubber ducks. 18,000 rubber ducks are then dropped into the bay at the Silverdale Waterfront during Whaling Days on the last Sunday of July. Excited fans and ticket holders watch as the colorful ducks ride the tide toward the funneled finish line.

Prizes include a variety of gifts and cash donated by local sponsor. The grand prize is a brand-new Nissan Truck donated by Advantage Nissan. "We have so many wonderful sponsors who support our community year after year. We've called them to let them know of our decision and to offer to return their donations. Many of them just asked for us to put them to good use to meet needs in the community" says President Scheffer.

All money raised from the Duck Race goes to help those in need in our community. Through Duck Buck Grants, monies raised goes to wonderful organizations such as Stand Up For Kids, Coffee Oasis, Easterseals, and many other non-profits that help the people of Kitsap. The race cancellation will deeply decrease the amount of funds available to these organization.

"Waddles the Duck and The Silverdale Duck Race will definitely return next year" says Scheffer. "In the meantime, through our #ShutInNOTShutOut program the club is focusing its efforts on Covid19 relief projects. We will continue to be a caring, visible force in the community with the mission of 'Service Above Self.'"

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