I have to admit that although I played many sports growing up, both organized and with neighborhood friends, I never had any direct involvement with the Boys & Girls Club in my youth.

With that said, having lived in Mukilteo since 1985, it has always been known to me the great value both Chuck Davis and the Mukilteo Boys & Girls Club provide to this community.

In this day and age of two income families, kids need a safe and secure place to call their own. Where they can socialize with kids their own age, shoot some hoops, play some games, or maybe even get an early start on their homework.

My daughter Ashley is a student at WWU and has spent a number of hours volunteering her time at the Bellingham Boys & Girls Club. She has seen first-hand how important it is for kids to have a stable environment to come to, where they can get a snack and spend some time with a mentor. On one of her visits, Ashley was talking with a little girl about how she spends her time at home. Ashley happened to ask if the girl had a nice yard to play in, the girl said she didn’t have a yard to play in, because she lived in an apartment and didn’t get to go outside very often. Imagine how important spending time with friends at the Boys & Girls Club is to that young child.

They say it takes a community to raise a child. I would say that the Mukilteo Boys & Girls Club is a centerpiece to our community. As such an important institution, we now have a chance to solidify its presence in Mukilteo’s future growth and development by investing in a new building to help the youth of Mukilteo grow up strong and confident. Mukilteo Boys & Girls Club combines the best of organized sports for kids, as well as support programs for the families in our community.

Think back to your own youth and the important part sports, friendship and strong mentors played in your development. Then envision all of the kids that will benefit from a new Mukilteo Boys & Girls Club to call home.

Dan Weyers