



Kathleen Berg is one of many locals who participated in the inaugural Goldendale Citywide Yard Sale. More than 65 sale sites popped up in and around Goldendale.

Goldendale Revives Citywide Yard Sale

Diana Notestine used Facebook and hardworking volunteers to bring back a community sales event

By Jeanie Senior

The weather on the morning of Friday, June 16—the first day of the Goldendale Citywide Yard Sales—was not ideal. The skies were gray and a cold wind was blowing.

The skies eventually cleared and it warmed up by mid-day. Diana Notestine, who organized the two-day event, laughs when asked if the sale will happen in 2018.

“Oh yeah,” she says. “Next year will be June 15 to 16.”

By the weekend, the total number of sales climbed to 65 in and around Goldendale. Some were multi-family sales. Others were held at community

businesses including Allyn’s Building Center, Monkeyshines, Julie Vance’s law office and the Bargain Boutique.

Items ranged from horse tack and computers to books, antiques, musical instruments, car parts and household goods.

Diana and her husband, Julian, went to 16 sales in three hours Saturday so she could get a feel for how things were going. They encountered shoppers from Salem, Stevenson, Yakima, White Swan and Klickitat, she says, and found the yard-salers were pleased to see so many participants.

Goldendale’s citywide sale is the successor to “13 Miles of Yard Sales,” which started in 2003 and ran for 13 years.



Clockwise from above, Diana Notestine organized the 2017 garage sale event with the help of community volunteers. Sales ranged from small with a few items to multi-family ventures. Items included everything from horse tack and computers to antiques and household goods.

In past years, it included a number of Klickitat County towns. But enthusiasm dwindled and the Goldendale Chamber of Commerce, which had helped with its organization, decided to pursue other projects.

That is when Diana stepped up.

“I asked myself, how could I continue having the yard sales in Goldendale without spending any money?” she says.

Diana turned to Facebook to organize and publicize the event.

“My biggest worry in the beginning was not getting very many people signing up on Facebook,” she says.

As the number of sales continued to climb, that worry went away to be replaced by another.

“Just before the day of the sales I asked my husband, ‘Do you think there are too many yard sales?’” Diana says.

Information about the yard sales appeared on Craigslist, KLCK-FM radio and the local paper. A loaned banner at the corner of Columbus and Broadway streets announced the event.

Word of mouth also attracted visitors to Goldendale. No one kept a count of shoppers, but Diana guesses they numbered in the hundreds.

The Goldendale Chamber of Commerce printed the double-sided list of sales made available to shoppers. Diana says someone has volunteered to prepare a map for the 2018 yard sales.

Going forward, Diana is committed to

keeping the community-wide yard sales limited to Goldendale and Centerville.

“Also next year, I will have one or two people lined up to pick up leftover yard sale stuff,” Diana says. “And I want to work on getting a small flea market going at the same time.”

She says Chamber of Commerce members have told her they are glad she offered to carry on with the community yard sales, but Diana is not taking credit.

“The people having over 65 yard sales did more work than I did,” she insists. “Thanks to a few good volunteers, the event went off without a hitch.

“It is amazing what a person can accomplish with volunteers and Facebook!” ■