

LITTLE THINGS MATTER

Ben Small

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Executive Director, LaunchNW



Little Things *are* Big Things

Can you remember a peer, friend, or classmate who needed a little extra help getting by?

- Write the child's name on one of the cards on your table.
- Share the profile/story of that person with those at your table.

Storytelling is important in conveying impact.

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My story

- One of nine children
- Moved often
- My Dad's dream
- For today's purposes, we begin in Deer Park, WA

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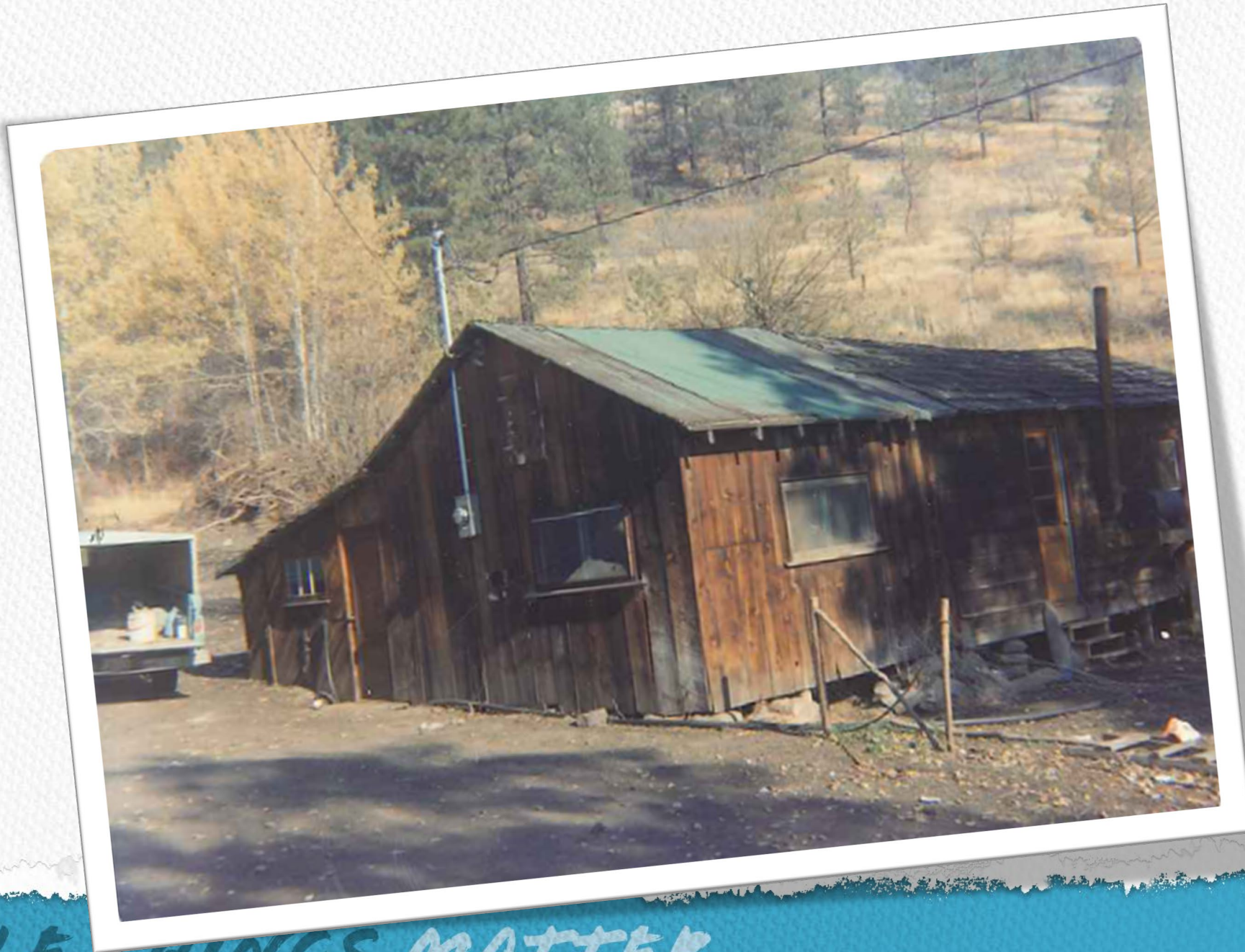
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My story

- Moved from Deer Park
- Impact of a teacher
 - Mrs. May

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Ben C. Snow
age 6. 1st
grade
1970



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My story

- Bob Heath and *almost* perfect attendance

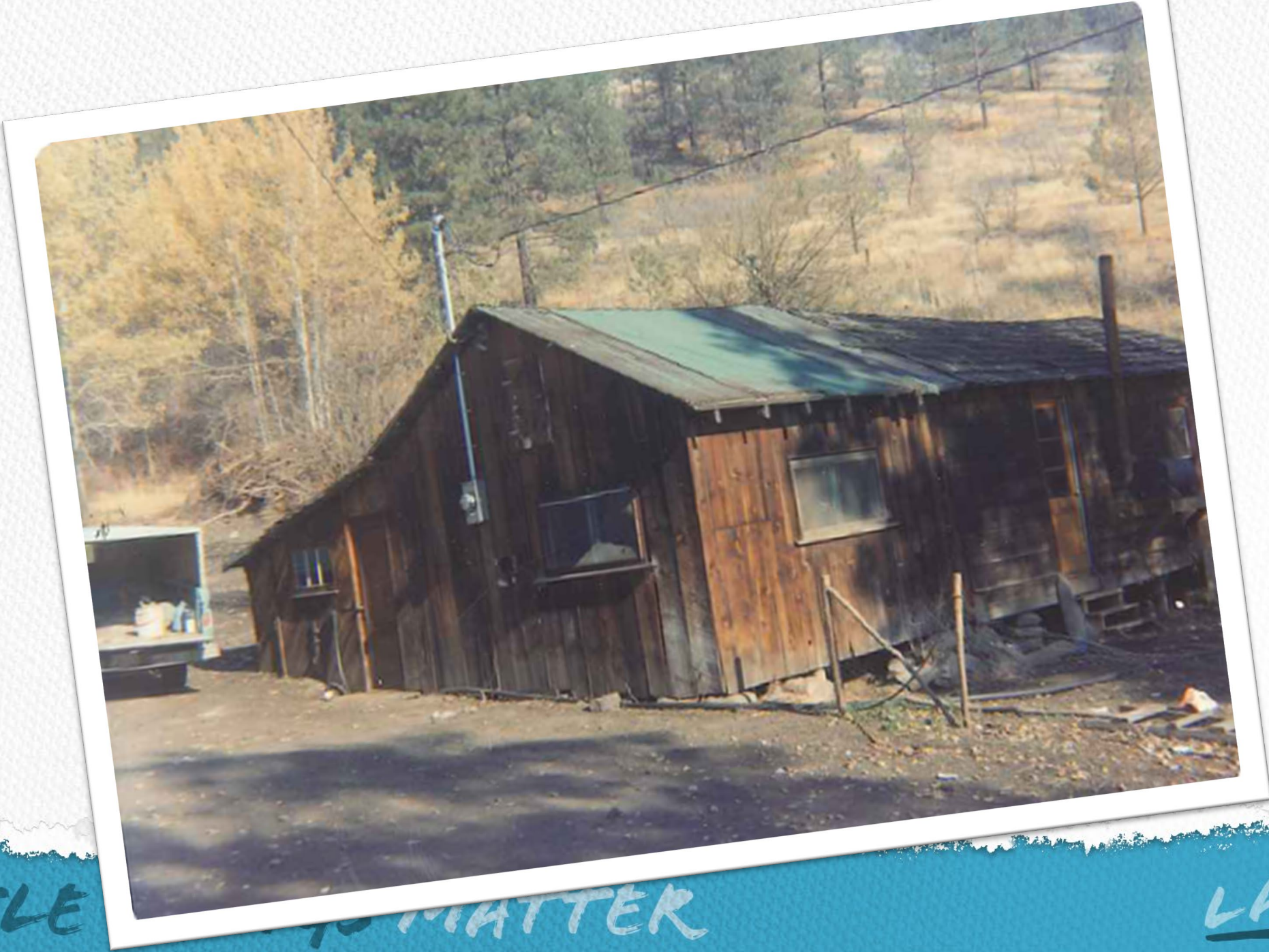
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LITTLE IS MATTER

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My story

- The support of a community and its people
- The move next door
- The importance of a chicken coop
- Boise Cascade Mill

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My story

- The move to Oroville
 - Dad was a custodian at the school
 - Mom cleaned hotel rooms and worked at the drive-in



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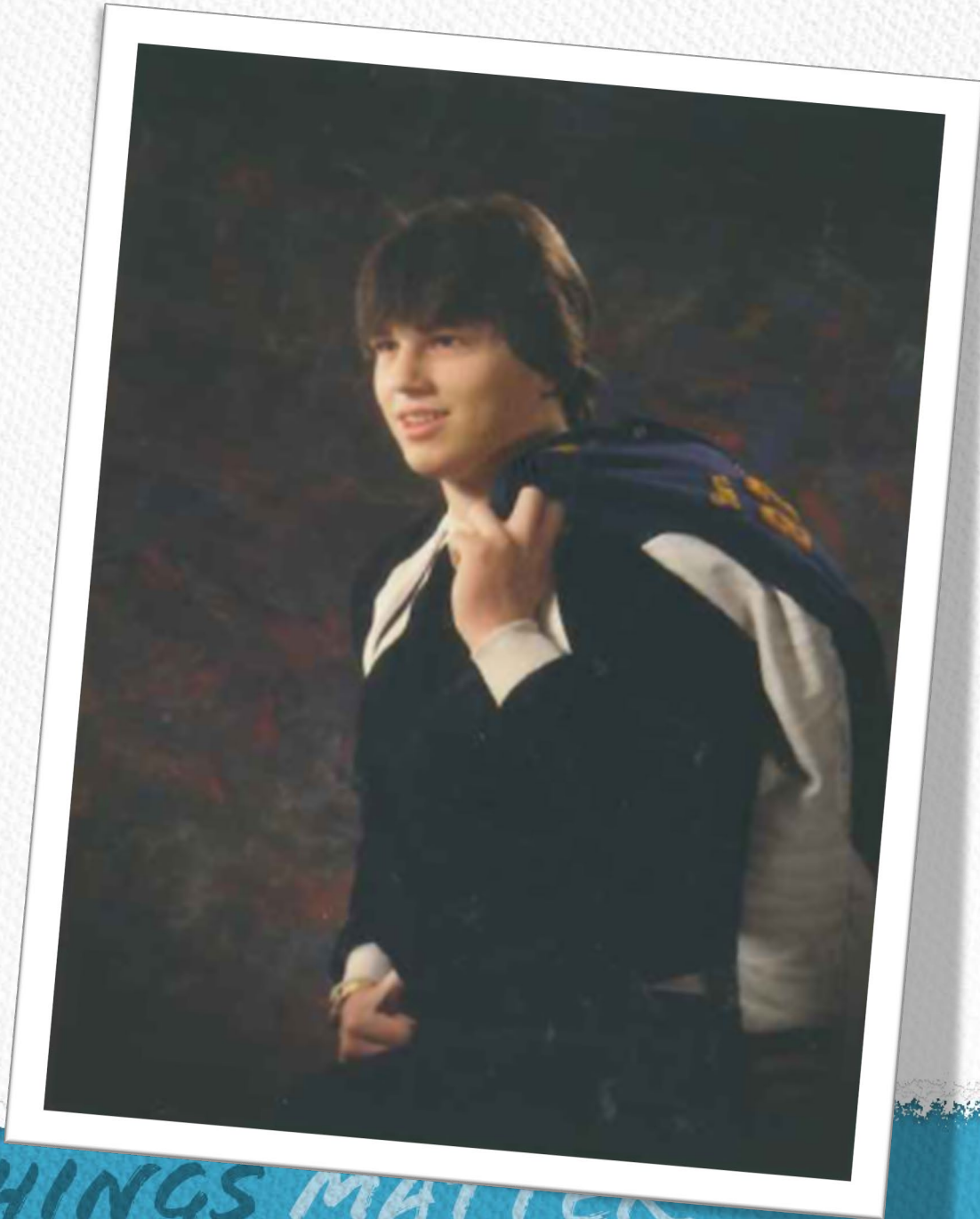
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My story

- Athletic participation
- Letterman jacket

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Little Things *were* Big Things *to me*

Takeaways from my story

- I always remember feeling that I was **loved**
- The community that **supported** me was vital
- I rarely felt “less than” — I was **important**
- Whether they did or not, I felt that people **believed** in me

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My path

- A missing piece
- Post-secondary pursuit
- SFCC/dropout
- EWU/WSU

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Little Things *still* Matter

- Path in public education
- It is time
- The influence of my journey

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What is next?

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Back to the beginning

- The student who comes to my mind is Heather
 - I hope, in some way, I contributed to her feeling...
 - That she was **loved**
 - That her community **supported** her
 - That she was equally **important**
 - That people **believed** in her

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Little Things Matter *to them*

- What can **you** do to make sure every child feels:

Loved
Supported

Important
Believed in

Prepared.

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