

Public Art Project Dedication Announced, Breaker at the Weatherwax Triangle **Local News**

Posted by: David Haviland

Posted on : June 3, 2013 at 4:46 am

ABERDEEN, Wash. - The Grays Harbor Community Foundation, the City of Aberdeen Arts Commission, and the City of Aberdeen officially announced today the public dedication of the new three-dimensional artwork officially named "Breaker" by Adam Kuby (Portland, OR) that has been funded by the Grays Harbor Community Foundation. The site, a small triangle of City right-of-way between the business districts of Aberdeen and Hoquiam was recently renamed "Weatherwax Triangle" by the Aberdeen City Council. The public dedication of "Breaker," that was developed with the working title: Resurgence, is scheduled for 11:00 am, Saturday, June 8th at the site, Simpson and Park in Aberdeen. The street will be closed for a short period, and traffic re-routed around the Weatherwax triangle, to ensure public safety and good viewing of the piece and the short ceremony. This project was undertaken to honor the legacy of the Weatherwax family and to inspire both local residents and those that pass through Grays Harbor towards generosity and commitment to community. The artwork is intended to support both motorist drive-by and up-close pedestrian viewing experiences, and is comprised of architectural sandstone blocks from the old J.M Weatherwax High School as a re-use material, along with landscaping and lighting.

In 2002, Aberdeen's J.M. Weatherwax High School, a historic building built in 1909, was destroyed by a fire. The Weatherwax family long contributed to the Grays Harbor Community as philanthropists and civic leaders epitomizing humility, hard work, and generosity. The loss of the building generated community interest in creating a new physical acknowledgment to the Weatherwax family. Architectural sandstone blocks previously installed on the high school building's facade were salvaged for re-use in the effort to recognize anew these ordinary people who did extraordinary things, and to inspire others to do the same. A reminder of the Weatherwax legacy, the stones also serve as a symbol of strength and survival, rising from the ashes, and resilience: qualities that Aberdeen residents see within themselves. Some of the stones are permanently displayed in the new high school building which opened in 2007, while others were artistically re-used with interpretation in this public artwork opportunity. The Grays Harbor Community Foundation is a 501(c) (3) with a mission: "To improve the quality of life in the communities throughout Grays Harbor County." The public is encouraged to contribute to their favorite charities and may donate to the Grays Harbor Community Foundation to support a variety of purposes. Tax deductible donations may be made to: Grays Harbor Community Foundation, P.O. Box 615, Hoquiam, WA 98520 Or you may find out more by checking the foundation website: www.gh-cf.org or you may contact: Jim Daly at 532-1600 or by e-mail at: info@gh-cf.org